

Publication date: 10/27/2022

## **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:** Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem (GPD) Program  
Per Diem Only (PDO) Grant

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

**ACTION:** Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

**SUMMARY:** VA is announcing the availability of funding for new grants under the PDO grant component of the VA Homeless Providers GPD program in an effort to reduce homelessness among Veterans.

Applications for assistance are being accepted from eligible entities to provide per diem payments for facilitating housing stabilization for Veterans experiencing homelessness. Funding will support VA's Homeless Providers GPD Program PDO transitional supportive housing bed models and service centers. These PDO service models are designed to meet different Veteran populations at various stages as they move to stable housing.

VA anticipates that the grants will be for a period of 3 years starting in fiscal year (FY) 2024 on October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2026. VA anticipates awarding approximately 350 grants for a total of approximately 10,500 transitional supportive housing beds and 15 service centers nationwide. Applications will be accepted either for transitional supportive housing beds or for a service center. Applications for transitional supportive housing may include one or a combination of bed models (i.e., Bridge Housing, Clinical Treatment, Hospital to Housing, Low Demand and/or Service Intensive Transitional Housing). Applications may not request both transitional supportive housing beds and a service center within the same application.

This NOFO contains information concerning the program, application process, available funding, selection criteria and award process.

**DATES:** Applications for grants must be received by the GPD National Program Office no later than **4:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Monday, February 6, 2023.**

In the interest of fairness to all, this deadline is firm as to date and hour. VA will treat any application received after the deadline as ineligible. Applicants should take this practice into account and submit their materials early to avoid the risk of unanticipated delays, computer service outages or other submission-related problems that might result in ineligibility.

**ADDRESSES:** Instructions for accessing the application are available at [www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp). The required documentation for applications is outlined under the [Content and Form of Application section](#) of this NOFO. Standard forms, which must be included as part of a complete application package, may be downloaded directly from VA's GPD program website at [www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp). Questions may be referred to the GPD National Program Office at [GPDGrants@va.gov](mailto:GPDGrants@va.gov). For detailed GPD program information and requirements, see 38 C.F.R. part 61.

**APPLICATION SUBMISSION:** Applications must be submitted by following instructions at [www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp). Applications may not be submitted any other way. Applications must be received by the GPD National Program Office no later than 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the application deadline date. Applications must be submitted as a complete package. Materials arriving separately will not be included in the application package for consideration and may result in the application being rejected or not funded.

In the event of certain errors, such as duplicate applications or multiple applications per Employer Identification Number (EIN), per VA medical facility catchment area, VA reserves the right to select which application to consider based on the submission dates and times or based on other factors.

Applicants are advised to refer to this NOFO when completing the online application. NOFO content provides supplementary guidance for completing the online application.

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:** Information regarding how to obtain technical assistance with the preparation of a grant application is available on the GPD website at [www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Chelsea Watson, Director, VA Homeless Providers GPD Program Office, [GPDGrants@va.gov](mailto:GPDGrants@va.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

<b>Funding Opportunity Title:</b>	GPD Per Diem Only Grant
<b>Announcement Type:</b>	Initial
<b>Funding Opportunity Number:</b>	VA-GPD-PDO-FY2024
<b>Assistance Instrument:</b>	Grant
<b>Assistance Listing:</b>	64.024, VA Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program

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## **I. Funding Opportunity Description**

### **A. Purpose**

Ending and preventing homelessness among Veterans is a priority for VA. VA Homeless Programs Office constitutes the Nation's largest integrated network of homelessness, housing, prevention and rehabilitation services for Veterans. These programs are designed to help Veterans live as self-sufficiently and independently as possible. The foundation for these programs is based on Housing First principles combined with supportive services to ensure Veterans are able to end the cycle of homelessness.

Since 1994, the GPD program has provided Veterans who are experiencing homelessness with community-based transitional housing, supportive services and more. These services assist Veterans in attaining or retaining permanent residence. Several types of grants are offered under the umbrella of the GPD program. The grants are designed to meet Veterans at various stages as they move to housing stability. The community organizations who receive these grants offer focused housing stability services through a variety of service models, such as transitional supportive housing and service centers. These services are targeted to different populations and needs of Veterans, for example under the transitional supportive housing grants community organizations serve Veterans through any of a variety of bed models. The GPD program plays a vital role in the continuum of homeless services.

### **B. Background**

Ending Veteran homelessness requires multifaceted approaches. This NOFO is designed to be one such approach. This NOFO responds to the mounting need in communities to end homelessness in unique and targeted ways tailored to the needs of diverse populations of Veterans and to the unique skills and resources in different communities. Therefore, funding under this NOFO is available for two different PDO service models to support Veterans experiencing homelessness with their move to permanent housing. One PDO service model available under this NOFO is transitional supportive housing, under which applicants may apply for any combination of five bed models (i.e., Bridge Housing, Clinical Treatment, Hospital to Housing, Low Demand and Service Intensive Transitional Housing). The other PDO service model available is service centers. These options are detailed later in the NOFO. Applicants must apply for either transitional supportive housing beds or a service center per application. A combination of transitional housing beds and a service center is not allowed. Grants funded from this NOFO will increase housing stability for Veterans.

VA is committed to supporting community-based organizations as they transform projects to meet the challenge of ending homelessness among Veterans.

### **C. Definitions**

The regulations for the GPD program are codified in 38 C.F.R. part 61. Definitions of terms used in the GPD program and in Federal grant programs that are applicable to this NOFO are available in 38 C.F.R. part 61 and 2 C.F.R. part 200. See 38 C.F.R.

§ 61.1 for the definitions. Selected and additional definitions are highlighted here for purposes of this NOFO:

- **By-name list:** A comprehensive list of every person in a community experiencing homelessness updated in real time.
- **Case management:** A collaborative client-driven process whereby a range of services are provided to assist individuals in developing their skills to gain or maintain access to needed housing, medical, behavioral health, employment, social, educational and other essential services. Case management activities include housing navigation and providing linkages and training related to the use of basic community resources. Interventions may occur at both the Veteran and system levels. This may include progressive engagement strategies that tailor resources to each Veteran's needs and flexes up supports as greater needs are identified. Case management supports the client's achievement of safe, realistic and reasonable goals within a complex health, social and fiscal environment.
- **Continuum of Care (CoC):** According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), a CoC is a program designed to promote community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers and state or local governments to quickly rehouse individuals and families experiencing homelessness while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to individuals, families and communities by homelessness; promote access to and effect utilization of mainstream programs by individuals and families experiencing homelessness; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.
- **Coordinated entry process:** A process through which people experiencing homelessness can access the crisis response system and housing in a streamlined way, have their strengths and needs quickly assessed and connect to tailored housing and mainstream services within the community.
- **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS):** A locally administered web-based data system used to record and analyze both project and client information at the local CoC level. HMIS is used by Federal partners, including VA, to measure project performance and participate in benchmarking of the national effort to end homelessness.
- **Housing Navigation:** Services provided to help Veteran participants locate and obtain or retain permanent, stable residence. It may include activities such as outreach to property owners, connecting to legal services, landlord mediation, education, providing information on landlord and tenant issues or identifying local community resources.
- **Low barrier:** For Veterans who are determined to be appropriate for the project, "low barrier" refers to a general approach to admissions in which there are no or minimal requirements for entry. By focusing on reducing harm, a low barrier approach encourages Veterans experiencing homelessness to seek resources by eliminating obstacles. It also means expediting the time it takes for an eligible

Veteran to be admitted into housing (i.e., same day access from the point of identification or referral to the GPD project, or within no more than 72 hours).

- Negative exits: Those exits from a GPD program for a violation of program rules, failure to comply with program requirements or leaving the program without consulting staff.
- Supplemental Security Income/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSI/SSDI) Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR): A non-VA, Federal resource that can substantially assist Veterans experiencing or at risk for homelessness by providing them with consistent income that often promotes permanent housing stability, self-sustainment, functional independence and ongoing care for Veterans with disabling conditions.

#### **D. Approach**

##### *Goals and Objective*

The goals of projects under assistance listing 64.024, VA Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem program, are to provide transitional housing and supportive services to Veterans experiencing homelessness as they move toward and retain permanent housing. To achieve these goals, the objective of this NOFO is to provide funds for per diem payments to facilitate housing stabilization through either transitional supportive housing beds or service centers. Grants awarded under this NOFO will contribute to the achievement of the goals and objective by making available approximately 10,500 transitional housing beds and 15 service centers nationwide to increase housing stability for Veterans. Program performance and project performance will be indicated by the percentage of Veterans who exit to permanent housing, the employment status of enrolled Veterans and negative exits.

Applicants agree to meet the applicable requirements of 38 C.F.R. part 61 as a part of the effort to end homelessness among our Nation's Veterans. Pursuant to 38 C.F.R. § 61.30, VA may provide per diem only funds to entities that are eligible to receive a capital grant. Applicants agree to meet the applicable requirements of 2 C.F.R. part 200 as part of the Federal-wide initiative to administer Federal financial assistance systematically and uniformly. In addition, all applicants must offer a low barrier approach to engaging unsheltered Veterans in services and must implement policies and procedures for maintaining low barriers through the provision of service.

##### *Service Model Descriptions*

Note: Each GPD service model has required minimum performance metrics/targets that are set for each annual period of the award (e.g., October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024). VA may, at its discretion, update these targets at any point during the award period. If any new targets come into effect, VA will notify grantees in writing.

#### **Bridge Housing**

##### *Target Population*

This bed model is designed for Veterans experiencing homelessness who have been offered and have accepted a permanent housing intervention but are not able to

immediately enter the permanent housing. For purposes of this housing model, a Veteran is considered accepted for a permanent housing intervention if, for example, the Veteran has been accepted for case management as part of the Department of Housing and Urban Development – VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program even if the Veteran has not yet received the HUD-VASH voucher. Similarly, a Veteran is considered accepted for a permanent housing intervention if, for example, the Veteran has been accepted into a Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program but has not yet started services. Other examples include Veterans who purchased a home or signed a lease on an apartment but are not able to move in immediately.

#### *Bed Model Overview*

Bridge housing is intended to be a short-term stay in transitional housing for Veterans with pre-identified permanent housing destinations.

#### *Length of Stay (LOS)*

LOS is individually determined based on need, but in general, is expected to average 90 days.

#### *Characteristics & Standards*

For this bed model, goals in the Individual Service Plan (ISP) should be short-term with the focus on the move to permanent housing, rather than the completion of treatment goals. Veterans are expected to receive case management and support, which should be coordinated with the HUD-VASH, SSVF or other available community-based programs. Grantees will assist Veterans with accessing services as needed or as requested by the Veteran and must offer participants a menu of available services.

#### *Admission Criteria*

Veterans must have been offered and accepted a permanent housing intervention prior to admission with documentation to be completed within the first 14 days of admission.

#### *Required Minimum Performance Metrics/Targets*

- Discharge to permanent housing is 75%.
- Negative exits are less than 20%.

### **Clinical Treatment**

#### *Target Population*

This bed model is designed for Veterans experiencing homelessness with a specific diagnosis related to a substance use disorder and/or a mental health diagnosis. The Veteran actively chooses to engage in clinical services.

#### *Bed Model Overview*

Clinically focused treatment is provided in conjunction with services effective in helping Veterans experiencing homelessness secure permanent housing and increase income through benefits and/or employment.



## LOS

Program stays are to be individualized based upon the ISP for the Veteran (not driven by the project). In general, LOS is expected to average 6-12 months and not to exceed 24 months.

### *Characteristics & Standards*

Although the programming and services have a strong clinical focus, permanent housing and increased income are a required outcome of the program. Treatment programs must incorporate strategies to increase income and housing attainment. Individualized assessment, services and treatment plan are tailored to achieve optimal results in an efficient manner and are consistent with sound clinical practice. Staff are to be licensed and/or credentialed to perform the substance use disorder or mental health services proposed as directed by State and local law. Treatment services must be provided by the applicant or by a subrecipient or contractor. (VA staff cannot be the treatment provider for this model.) Veterans are offered a variety of treatment service modalities (e.g., individual and group counseling, individual therapy, family support groups, family therapy, psychoeducation).

### *Admission Criteria*

Veteran actively chooses to engage in clinical services.

### *Required Minimum Performance Metrics/Targets*

- Discharge to permanent housing is 65%.
- Employment of individuals at discharge is 55%.
- Negative exits are less than 20%.

## **Hospital to Housing (Respite Care)**

### *Target Population*

This bed model is designed for Veterans experiencing homelessness who are identified and evaluated at inpatient care settings and emergency departments for suitability for direct transfer to a designated GPD project for transitional housing and supportive care. Veterans served under this bed model must be able to receive health care services from VA. A Homeless Patient Aligned Care Team, or other appropriate care team, will facilitate the ongoing care needs while in transitional housing.

### *Bed Model Overview*

Respite care is a medical model to address the housing and recuperative care needs of Veterans experiencing homelessness who have been hospitalized.

## LOS

LOS is individually determined based on need, but in general LOS is expected to average 6-12 months and not to exceed 24 months.

### *Characteristics & Standards*

Projects are small (typically 10 beds or less). Housing sites are expected to be in close proximity to the referring VA medical facility so that ongoing clinical care, including specialty care, can be provided. Applicants must have a post-discharge care plan as a pre-requisite to placement that addresses ongoing physical, substance use disorder, mental health and social work needs. Care management plans must be in place to transition the Veteran to permanent housing upon clinical stabilization. VA Homeless Patient Aligned Care Teams, or other appropriate care unit, will facilitate and coordinate the ongoing care needs upon transition. Applicants must have an up-to-date memorandum of understanding (MOU) in place with the local VA medical facility that details participation in the Hospital to Housing bed model. The MOU must include acceptance criteria for Veterans being referred from local emergency departments and inpatient wards, how follow-up care with the VA medical facility is organized and a commitment to engaging enrolled Veterans in permanent housing as part of project objectives.

#### *Admission Criteria*

As agreed, and as stated in the MOU.

#### *Required Minimum Performance Metrics/Targets*

- Discharge to permanent housing is 65%.
- Negative exits are less than 20%.

### **Low Demand**

#### *Target Population*

This bed model is designed for Veterans experiencing chronic homelessness who suffer from substance use disorders or mental health diagnoses, or who struggle with maintaining sobriety. Also, Veterans with multiple treatment failures, or who may not have received treatment services or who may not have been successful in traditional housing programs are eligible. These Veterans may not have fully committed to sobriety and treatment.

#### *Bed Model Overview*

Low Demand housing is a program design using a low-demand, harm-reduction model to better accommodate Veterans experiencing chronic homelessness and Veterans who were unsuccessful in traditional treatment settings. Programming does not require sobriety or compliance with mental health treatment as a condition of admission or continued stay. Overall, demands are kept to a minimum. However, services are made widely available and are actively promoted by program staff as needed. The goal is to establish permanent housing in the community, while providing for the safety of staff and residents.

#### *LOS*

LOS will be individually determined based on need, but in general LOS is expected to average 6-12 months and not to exceed 24 months.

### *Characteristics & Standards*

Project is small in size (typically 20 beds or less). Services must include case management, substance use and mental health treatment. Referrals for benefits are made available as Veterans engage. Grantees must do the following:

- Provide the participant an orientation that sets the expectations of performance for the participant.
- Have 24/7, paid, appropriately trained, on-site staffing at the same location as the location of the participants. (Using resident managers is not allowed.)
- Have a method to monitor participants' and guests' comings and goings.
- Have a system in place for managing the introduction of contraband.
- Be willing to retain Veterans who commit minor infractions of rules and who cannot and/or will not stop drinking and/or using legal or illegal substances.
- Be committed to keeping the Veterans housed, staying continuously engaged with each Veteran and providing services as needed.
- Have procedures to ensure safety of staff and residents.
- Participate in calls twice per month and in an annual fidelity assessment process established by VA.

### *Admission Criteria*

Very minimal. Determined by the applicant.

### *Required Minimum Performance Metrics/Targets*

- Discharge to permanent housing is 60%.
- Negative exits are less than 20%.

## **Service Intensive Transitional Housing**

### *Target Population*

This bed model is designed for Veterans experiencing homelessness who choose a supportive transitional housing environment providing services prior to entering permanent housing.

### *Bed Model Overview*

Provides transitional housing and a milieu of services that facilitate individual stabilization and movement to permanent housing as rapidly as clinically appropriate.

### *LOS*

LOS is individually determined based on need, but in general LOS is expected to average 6-12 months and not to exceed 24 months.

### *Characteristics & Standards*

Scope of services should incorporate tactics to increase the Veteran’s income through employment and/or benefits and obtaining permanent housing. Services provided and strategies used by the applicant will vary based on the individualized needs of the Veteran and resources available in the community. The applicants are encouraged to provide an array of comprehensive services and/or to connect Veterans to resources available in the community. Applicants specify the staffing levels and range of services to be provided. See [Guidance for the Use of Funds section](#) of this NOFO for the maximum number of Service Intensive beds allowed per application.

*Admission Criteria*

Determined by the applicant.

*Required Minimum Performance Metrics/Targets*

- Discharge to permanent housing is 70%.
- Employment of individuals at discharge is 60%.
- Negative exits are less than 20%.

**Service Centers**

*Target Population*

This service model is designed for Veterans experiencing homelessness who are seeking assistance with obtaining housing, employment, medical care or benefits.

*Service Model Overview*

Provides on-demand services and information to engage and aid Veterans experiencing homelessness so they may access housing resources and services.

*LOS*

N/A

*Characteristics & Standards*

The scope of services should incorporate tactics to engage and aid Veterans. The services provided and strategies used by the applicant will vary based on the individual needs of the Veteran and resources available in the community. The applicant specifies the staffing levels and range of services to be provided. Service centers shall provide services, generally in-person, for a minimum of 40 hours per week over a minimum of 5 days per week, as well as provide services on an as-needed, unscheduled basis. See 38 C.F.R. § 61.80 for additional information about service centers.

*Admission Criteria*

Service Center grantees are allowed to “admit” or provide services to Veterans enrolled in other programs, such as GPD or Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) transitional housing programs. However, generally costs for such services are not eligible to be reimbursed under a service center grant because they would be

duplicative of costs supported by the GPD and HCHV housing programs which already provide an array of services to facilitate obtaining housing, employment or benefits.

*Required Minimum Performance Metrics/Targets*

- Serve the population of Veterans experiencing homelessness as described in the application.
- Provide the services as outlined in the application.
- Meet the requirements of 38 C.F.R. § 61.80 regarding service centers.
- Demonstrate the service center is meeting the number of visits stated in the application.

*Facility Specifications*

1. Applicants must own or lease a facility(s) appropriate for the activities required under the NOFO. For example, an applicant for a transitional supportive housing grant who owns or leases a single-family home, an apartment building, Tiny Homes or other types of housing units may propose how the selected facility(s) is appropriate for the required activities.
2. Facility configurations must account for the privacy, safety, security and dignity needs of Veterans. For this reason, facilities with private or semi-private accommodations for Veterans are preferred over those with congregate or open bay accommodations.
3. Facilities must be in locations that are supportive to the goals of Veterans and the project. For example, a neighborhood's level of safety, sobriety, economic opportunity, transportation and inclusion can impact a Veteran's success in gaining or maintaining permanent housing.
4. Applicants who need to acquire, construct or renovate a facility(s) for use as GPD transitional housing or who do not include a clear plan for identifying a facility(s) in a timely manner will not be considered responsive to this NOFO.
5. All facilities must meet the inspection standards outlined at title 38 C.F.R. § 61.80(a)-(b). This includes, but is not limited to, compliance with:
  - a. Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards and the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines.
  - b. Current edition of the Life Safety Code of the National Fire Protection Association and all applicable State and local housing codes.

*VHA Homeless Programs Referenced in this NOFO*

1. The GPD program provides grant funding to community-based organizations to provide transitional housing and supportive services to Veterans experiencing homelessness. Several different service models are offered, including transitional supportive housing and service centers.

2. The SSVF program provides grant funding to community-based organizations to assist very low-income Veteran families residing in or transitioning to permanent housing. SSVF grantees provide a range of supportive services to eligible Veteran families that are designed to promote housing stability.
3. HUD-VASH program is a collaborative program between HUD and VA, which combines HUD housing vouchers with VA supportive services to help Veterans and their families who are homeless find and sustain permanent housing.
4. HCHV program reduces homelessness among Veterans by connecting them with health care and other needed services. Through outreach, case management and contract residential services, Veterans who chronically experience homelessness—especially those with serious substance use disorders or mental health diagnoses—are provided with quality VA or community-based housing and services.

#### **E. Authority**

Funding applied for under this NOFO is authorized by 38 U.S.C. §§ 2011, 2012.

#### **F. Guidance for the Use of Funds**

1. Funding applied for under this NOFO may be used to operate the PDO transitional housing project or Service Center project. Funding may not be used to operate Case Management, Special Need or Transition in Place projects.
2. Each application must be for either transitional supportive housing beds or for a service center per EIN per VA medical facility catchment area.
3. Applications do not have to include coverage for the entire VA medical facility catchment area in the application. The coverage area; however, must not exceed the catchment area identified in the application.
4. Each application for transitional supportive housing beds must include a minimum of one housing model per application and a minimum of five beds per housing model.
5. Each application for transitional supportive housing beds may include any combination of one, some or all transitional housing models (i.e., Bridge Housing, Clinical Treatment, Hospital to Housing, Low Demand and Service Intensive).
6. Each application for transitional supportive housing beds must include all housing model(s), site(s) and beds being proposed by the applicant for the VA medical facility catchment area within a single application.
7. Applicants for transitional supportive housing beds are encouraged to consider the need in their community for bed models that are more focused (i.e., Bridge, Low Demand, Hospital to Housing and/or Clinical Treatment) over the transitional housing model that is more general (i.e., Service Intensive). To that end, applicants may request up to 15 Service Intensive beds per application. If more than 15 Service Intensive beds are needed within the same application, then at least 60% of the additional beds beyond 15 must be for a bed model(s) other

than Service Intensive. Refer to the GPD website for the SITH bed calculator at [www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp).

- a. For example, an applicant applying for 50 total beds must allocate at least 21 of those beds to a housing model(s) that is not Service Intensive.
  - b. In this example, 50 total beds requested minus 15 Service Intensive beds equals 35 beds. 60% of 35 beds equals 21 non-Service Intensive beds, leaving no more than 14 beds out of 35 beds for additional Service Intensive beds.
  - c. In this example, out of 50 total beds, no more than up to 29 Service Intensive beds are allowed.
8. Applicants for transitional supportive housing beds under the Hospital to Housing bed model must submit an up-to-date MOU from the local VA medical facility. If an application does not include an MOU, VA reserves the right not to award any Hospital to Housing beds even if the application is otherwise selected for funding.
  9. Choices of bed models, of facility sites and of services are at the applicant's discretion within the guidance of the NOFO. Applicants are encouraged to tailor their proposed projects to factors such as their own ability and the particular needs of the community.
  10. Per diem may be requested to offset the cost of operating the transitional housing project or the service center project, minus other sources of income, including programmatic and administrative costs such as:
    - a. Operating costs as defined in 38 C.F.R. § 61.1.
    - b. Costs for minor dependents under the care of Veterans receiving services (see also [Payment section](#)).
      - i. The number of beds for minor dependents must be requested and approved as part of the transitional housing application (generally not expected to exceed 20 beds).
      - ii. For grantees operating at less than full capacity, any available Veteran beds may be occupied by the minor dependents under the care of a Veteran receiving services.
      - iii. For grantees operating at full capacity, the approved number of beds for minor dependents may be in addition to the approved number of beds for Veterans.
  11. HMIS participation fees and related staffing costs associated with inputting data and monthly reporting (only if not available through other means at no cost to the grant).
  12. Indirect costs, as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.412-415, are allowable if supported by a Federally Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) or if the applicant is eligible for the de minimis rate of up to 10% of modified total direct

costs as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.414. Otherwise, all requested costs must be direct costs.

13. The project must be used principally to furnish to Veterans the level of care for which the application is made. Not more than 25% of adult participants at any one time may be non-Veterans (38 C.F.R. § 61.31(b)(5)).
14. Applicants who received a GPD capital grant starting in FY 2022, must successfully apply to this PDO NOFO for at least the beds for which they are receiving capital grant funding. GPD capital grantees must maintain an active PDO transitional housing grant in the same facility space that was improved by VA capital funding at least until the expiration of the minimum period during which VA could seek recovery (38 C.F.R. § 61.67). Failure to apply and be selected for a PDO grant may result in an immediate full or partial capital grant repayment.
15. Funding restrictions – funding under this NOFO may not be used for capital improvements or to purchase vans or real property. Vehicles, however, may be leased to facilitate required transportation within the community if needed. Costs for necessary gas, insurance and maintenance are allowable.
16. All Federal grant funds made available for infrastructure projects must include terms and conditions of award that maximize the use of goods, products and materials produced in, and services offered in, the United States. See P.L. 117-58; 2 C.F.R. § 200.322. GPD transitional housing grants are not infrastructure projects. Therefore, generally, infrastructure costs are not allowed, including but not limited to costs for acquisition, renovation, construction or other changes to buildings or real property. However, consistent with Federal-wide initiatives (e.g., Executive Order 14005, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) memos M-21-26 and M-22-11 and P.L. 117-58), if written prior approval is received from the GPD National Program Office for infrastructure costs, then GPD grantees must ensure domestic preference for those infrastructure activities (consistent with 2 C.F.R. § 200.322 and with P.L. 117-58). Information about Made In America policies is available at <https://www.madeinamerica.gov/>.
17. Funds provided through this NOFO must not duplicate funding provided by any other GPD or VA grants and must not duplicate or replace funds from any Federal, state or local government agency or program to assist homeless persons.
18. VA reserves the right to fund only those projects or portions of projects based on the percentage of use by VA and based on the actual need as determined by VA. Those activities deemed outside the scope of this NOFO will not be funded.
19. Allowable costs are described for all Federal grants in 2 C.F.R. § 200 subpart E - Cost Principles. One factor affecting allowability of costs is that costs must be treated consistently with the grantee's normal written standards.

## **II. Award Information**

### **A. Allocation of Funds**



## GPD NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FY 2024 – Per Diem Only (PDO)

1. Under this NOFO funding is available for new grants under the PDO grant component of the VA Homeless Providers GPD program. All grants will be new, initial awards. Renewal funding is not available under this NOFO.
2. VA anticipates awarding approximately 350 grants for a total of approximately 10,500 beds and approximately 15 service centers nationwide.
3. To facilitate geographic dispersion, each applicant, as defined by EIN, may submit no more than one transitional supportive housing application and/or one service center application per VA medical facility catchment area.
4. Funding is dependent upon factors such as need, geographic dispersion, funding availability, the recipient meeting the performance goals, statutory and regulatory requirements, as well as the results of VA inspections or audits. Applicants must commit to a low barrier approach to engaging unsheltered Veterans in services and implement policies and procedures for maintaining low barriers through the provision of service, including for Veterans who relapse.
5. Depending on the quantity and quality of applications received and the availability of funding, VA reserves the right to make additional rounds of conditional selections from this NOFO to the eligible pool of applicants. VA also reserves the right to negotiate with applicants, at any point, including prior to award, an upward or downward adjustment to factors such as beds per catchment area, beds per grant, services, project period dates or dollars amounts including adjustments that exceed the limits stated in this NOFO if needed to accomplish the overall goals and objective.
6. All projects must pass inspection and be able to start serving Veterans as of October 1, 2023. Applicants must provide supportive housing or services to homeless Veteran populations no later than 180 days from the award start date (38 C.F.R § 61.30(c)). Failure to establish the grant within 180 days will result in termination of the grant and may impact future award decisions (38 C.F.R. § 61.12(i)).

### **B. Funding Priorities**

None.

### **C. Award Period**

VA anticipates that the grants will be for a period of three years starting in FY 2024 on October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2026.

## **III. Eligibility Information**

### **A. Eligibility**

Any eligible entity may apply for funding. Current GPD grantee organizations are eligible to apply. Applicants are not required to be a current GPD grantee.

An eligible application is an application that is complete, meets all the requirements named in the NOFO and is submitted on time from an eligible entity for eligible activities.

## GPD NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FY 2024 – Per Diem Only (PDO)

### 1. Eligible entity:

- a. An entity is eligible to apply if it is a 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) nonprofit organization, state or local government agency or federally recognized Indian Tribal government that meets the requirements in 38 C.F.R. § 61.1.
- b. An entity that is religious or faith-based is eligible, on the same basis as any other organization to participate. Faith-based organizations should refer to 38 C.F.R. § 61.64(b) through § 61.64(g) for grant compliance requirements.
- c. Eligible entities may submit up to one application per EIN, per VA medical facility catchment area for transitional supportive housing beds and/or up to one application per EIN, per VA medical facility catchment area for a service center. Applications may not request both transitional supportive housing beds and a service center within the same application.
- d. Successful applicants must maintain their status as 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) nonprofit organization, state or local government or recognized Indian Tribal government and must continue to meet the definitions in 38 C.F.R. § 61.1.
- e. Eligible entities must have an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) and must maintain their active status throughout the grant award period.
- f. Eligible entities, during the 5 years preceding the date of the application, must not have done any of the following (per 38 C.F.R. § 61.12(i)):
  - i. Had more than two GPD grants awarded that remain in development;
  - ii. Failed to establish two previously awarded GPD grants; or
  - iii. Had a previous GPD grant or per diem project terminated or transferred to another eligible entity for failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the award.

### 2. Eligible activities:

- a. Projects that propose to request per diem payments for either transitional supportive housing beds or a service center to facilitate housing stabilization for Veterans who are homeless or at risk for becoming homeless are eligible.
- b. Each application for transitional supportive housing beds must propose bed model(s) and bed numbers that conform to the requirements of this NOFO (see [Guidance for the Use of Funds section](#)).
- c. Each applicant must propose a 3-year project period.

Applicants must not be out of compliance with any reporting requirements or other requirements under any other GPD grant (e.g., outstanding SF-425 Federal Financial

Report, outstanding closeout requirements). At OMB's instruction (2 C.F.R. § 200.344(i)), VA will publicly report to the Federal Award and Performance Integrity and Information System (FAPIIS) any organization whose reporting is not complete within 1 year from the grant end date. GPD may decide not to provide a grant under this NOFO to an organization who is out of compliance with requirements under other VA or GPD grants.

**B. Cost Sharing or Matching**

None.

**IV. Application and Scoring Information**

**A. Content and Form of Application**

The numbered questions below make up the Per Diem Only (PDO) application that all applicants must complete. VA is seeking to focus resources to provide per diem payments for either transitional supportive housing beds or a service center to facilitate housing stabilization for Veterans who are homeless or at risk for becoming homeless. Applicants must include all required documents in their application submission. Submission of an incorrect, incomplete, inconsistent, unclear or incorrectly formatted application package may result in the application being rejected.

VA may make a reasonable effort to confirm or clarify information in the application. VA reserves the right to consider ineligible or to not select any application with inconsistent information or information that cannot be readily confirmed or that leads to an unclear understanding of the proposed project.

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) cannot predict all potential circumstances. Applicants are expected to propose plans within the requirements and guidance of the NOFO. When a specific situation is not explicitly addressed in the NOFO, applicants must use their judgment to propose plans that meet the intent of the NOFO and may explain how their choices align with the intent. All applications will be evaluated against the requirements and guidance in the NOFO.

*Organization Profile (Eligibility)*

1. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).
2. Employer Identification Number (EIN).
3. Organization Name.
4. Organization Address (including city, state, postal code and congressional district).
5. Indirect Cost Rate (percentage) and upload a copy of your agency's federally Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) that supports this rate, if applicable. Note: Applicants not requesting indirect costs or requesting the de minimis rate of up to 10% of modified total direct costs as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.414 are not required to upload a NICRA.

6. System for Award Management (SAM) expiration date: Note: Applicants are required to be registered in SAM before submitting an application and must maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which they have an active Federal award or an application under consideration by a Federal awarding agency. Refer to the [Funding Actions section](#) of the NOFO and 2 C.F.R. part 25 for more details.

#### *Overview*

7. Station number of the VA medical facility whose catchment area includes the proposed area to be served in this application (select one).
8. Veterans Integrated Service Network (select one).
9. Continuum of Care (CoC) (select all that apply).

#### *Application*

10. Total number of Veteran beds for which your agency is requesting per diem in this application (subject to the limits described in the [Guidance for the Use of Funds section](#)). (transitional housing bed applications only).
11. The number of Veteran beds per housing model for which your agency is requesting per diem (Note, the sum of all housing model beds in question 11 must equal the total number of Veteran beds requested in question 10).
12. Applicants planning to offer transitional housing beds for minor dependents of Veterans must state the number of beds for minor dependents that are expected to be in use in the PDO facilities (generally not expected to exceed 20 beds). (transitional housing bed applications only).
13. Estimated number of hourly service center visits to be provided monthly. (service center applications only).
14. Site address(es), to include: (Note: If requesting multiple sites within a single application, all sites must fall within the same VA medical facility catchment area.).
  - a. Complete address, city, state, zip code + four-digit extension, county, congressional district.
  - b. The total number of all beds, and the number of GPD beds, per site address.
  - c. Identify the various populations that will be served per site address (i.e., men/transgender/non-binary/other, women/transgender/non-binary/other, minor dependents, families, registered sex-offenders, justice involved Veterans).
  - d. The bedroom configuration for GPD Veterans, per site address (e.g., GPD Veterans will be housed in 8 single occupancy, 20 double occupancy and 12 triple occupancy, for a total of 40 GPD beds at this address).

#### *Abstract*

15. In approximately 500 words, provide a brief abstract introducing and summarizing the proposed project. Abstracts may elaborate on information provided elsewhere and may provide necessary context about the intent and impact of the project. As applicable, include a discussion of multiple sites, multiple CoCs and/or other information relevant to an understanding of the overall project.

*Detailed Application Design*

This is the portion of the application that describes the proposed project. VA reviewers will score the application based on how the detailed application design addresses the areas of need, outreach, project plan, ability and coordination in relation to the selected PDO service model and, if applicable, the selected bed model(s). These sections are in compliance with 38 C.F.R. part 61.

Note: Some questions only apply to specific service models or bed models. Applicants applying for these models must include responses in the application. The word count suggestions below account for space needed for multiple bed models. It is understood that applications with one or few bed models generally would use less space than the suggested limit.

**Need (see 38 C.F.R. § 61.13(e))**

16. Need 1 – In approximately 500 words, discuss the overall need for this grant in your community. Responses must include:
- a. How this project is tailored to the particular needs of the community and fit with the strategy of the CoC(s) to end homelessness.
  - b. Community level data that supports your assertions regarding need.
17. Need 2 – In approximately 500 words, discuss how your organization determined the number of eligible Veterans within your community in need of the proposed services. Responses must include:
- a. How your agency's involvement with your local coordinated entry process and by-name list informed the current declared need for the number of beds requested and housing model(s) proposed in this application. Service center applicants discuss how the need for the proposed service center was determined.
  - b. The specific local providers with whom your agency collaborated or will collaborate and from whom you will accept referrals.
  - c. Current GPD PDO transitional housing or service center grantees must discuss the total number of Veterans served from October 1, 2020, through September 30, 2022, under their current GPD award and the average length of stay for Veterans served, if applicable, during this same period. Explain how this past experience informs the current declared need for the number of beds by housing model or service center proposed.

**Outreach (see 38 C.F.R. § 61.13(c))**

18. Outreach 1 – In approximately 500 words, and by bed model if applicable, describe your organization’s plan to conduct outreach. Although communities and VA medical facilities may have referral systems in place for these resources, grantees also must address how they will outreach directly to Veterans particularly when occupancy rates are low. Responses must include:
- a. The frequency with which your agency will directly outreach to unsheltered Veterans living in places not ordinarily meant for human habitation (e.g., streets, parks, abandoned buildings, automobiles, emergency shelters).
  - b. Where your organization will target and tailor outreach efforts to identify appropriate Veterans for this project, including equitable and inclusive outreach efforts to reach marginalized and disadvantaged individuals.
  - c. How this project will be involved in the local coordinated entry process, by-name list efforts and community case conferencing meetings.
  - d. A discussion of how your organization’s outreach plan fits into your CoC’s plan to end homelessness.
19. Outreach 2 – In approximately 500 words, and by bed model if applicable, describe how Housing First low barrier principles will be applied to your agency’s outreach efforts. Responses must include:
- a. The process your agency will employ to ensure eligible, unsheltered Veterans have rapid access to services, including the timeline from referral to admission (i.e., same day access from the point of identification or referral to the GPD project, or within no more than 72 hours).
  - b. A description of all eligibility requirements for this PDO project demonstrating that barriers to accessing services are kept to a minimum.
  - c. An explanation of how your agency will orient Veterans to your project’s processes and timelines prior to or upon initiating services.
20. Outreach 3 – In approximately 500 words, and by bed model if applicable, describe the PDO facilities. Responses must include:
- a. A description of the neighborhood(s) where the PDO facility(s) will be located. Explain how the neighborhood(s) will support Veterans with their efforts to gain and maintain housing stability, adequate income support and self-sufficiency. Explain how outreach efforts will be more successful because of the type of neighborhood(s) proposed.
  - b. A description of the configuration of a typical PDO housing unit or service center. Include the square footage, the number of beds in that square footage (if applicable), unit features, common areas and other descriptive information. Explain how the facility(s) and/or units will meet the requirements in the [Facility Specifications section](#). Facilities with private or semi-private accommodations for Veterans are preferred over those with

congregate or open bay accommodations. Explain how outreach efforts will be more successful because of the type of facility(s) proposed.

**Project Plan (see 38 C.F.R. § 61.13(b))**

21. Project Plan 1 – In approximately 500 words, and by bed model if applicable, describe the specific process and criteria for determining which Veterans are appropriate for admission or services. Responses must include (as applicable):
  - a. Discuss the process to ensure unsheltered Veterans are admitted to housing quickly, preferably same day and not to exceed within 72 hours. Service center applicants discuss the timeframe to access services.
  - b. Applicants must eliminate barriers that delay the admissions process or access to services. Describe how those barriers are avoided or managed (e.g., minimizing delays due to background checks, reducing barriers created by tax credit properties).
  - c. If applicable, discuss any populations that will be considered ineligible for admission (e.g., those who have a history of sex offense, arson, violence, felony, inability to accomplish essential activities of daily living).
22. Project Plan 2 – Complete the table listing all the supportive services that will be provided to Veterans in the project (see Example 1). Successful applicants will be allowed to exceed the minimum standards during the grant period without need for written prior approval from the GPD National Program Office, but they will not be allowed to reduce the standards.

Example 1:

<b>Description of Service</b>	<b>Minimum Frequency</b>	<b>Total hours/month service will be offered for all GPD participants</b>	<b>Mode of Engagement</b>	<b>Housing model for which service is available</b>	<b>Job title and minimum credentials required</b>	<b>Service provider</b>
Case Management	Weekly	320 hours (2 FTE, 40 hours/week)	In person	Bridge, Clinical Treatment, Low Demand	Case Manager, LCSW, MSW	Agency staff
Legal Services	Monthly	5 hours	Virtual through video	Bridge, Clinical Treatment, Low Demand	Paralegal, Bachelor's	Contractors
Recreational Therapy	Biweekly	10 hours	Hybrid in person and video	Low Demand	Recreation Coordinator, no degree required, lived	Community volunteers

					experience preferred	
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23. Project Plan 3 – In approximately 750 words, and by bed model if applicable, describe how each of the supportive services identified in the table will support Veterans in ending their homelessness. Provide additional details about the services listed in the table. Responses must include (as applicable):
- a. How these services will incentivize Veteran engagement and ensure participants achieve residential stability, increase skill level and/or income and become involved in making life decisions that will increase self-determination.
  - b. Whether the services provided to transitional housing participants or within the service center will be available during flexible hours (e.g., accommodating participants who are employed).
  - c. Whether the minimum frequency cited in the table differs from the typical frequency. Note, “as needed” responses are unclear, so it is helpful to provide additional details to describe the quality of the proposed plan.
  - d. Whether services such as recreational therapy and/or access to legal services will be provided, including a discussion of how such activities will support Veterans’ efforts to gain and maintain housing stability and enhance self-sufficiency.
24. Project Plan 4 – In approximately 500 words, and by bed model if applicable, describe your plans for case management service delivery. Responses must include (as applicable):
- a. Descriptions of the specific case management services that will be provided to Veterans (e.g., landlord engagement, housing navigation, assistance accessing benefits, support with resolving legal issues) and how these supports will be individualized to assist Veterans in (re)acquiring and retaining permanent housing.
  - b. The minimum and typical frequency and method of contact (e.g., home visit, video, phone) each Veteran will have with their case manager.
  - c. The proposed average caseload for each full-time equivalent (FTE) case manager position.
  - d. How crisis intervention will be used to coordinate the resolution of medical, psychiatric and substance abuse needs to promote the attainment of permanent housing.
25. Project Plan 5 – In approximately 500 words, and by bed model if applicable, provide your agency’s individual service plan (ISP) methodology and the core items to be addressed in the ISP. Responses must include (as applicable):



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- a. How these services will support Veterans in understanding landlord/tenant rights and responsibilities and to be proactive in addressing issues that may have contributed to a loss of housing in the past.
  - b. A description of plans for various phases of the project, including identifying when Veterans are ready to transition to permanent housing and how this transition will be accomplished as quickly as clinically appropriate taking into consideration the individual needs of each Veteran.
  - c. An explanation of how, when and by whom participants' progress toward meeting their individual goals will be monitored, evaluated and documented. Include descriptions of how progress notes, case conferencing and supervision will be documented.
  - d. A discussion of how Veterans will be connected with necessary aftercare services (e.g., GPD Case Management, Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Shallow Subsidy) to prevent returns to homelessness.
26. Project Plan 6 – In approximately 500 words, and by bed model if applicable, describe how you will aid Veterans in increasing their income. Responses must include:
- a. An explanation of how your agency will support Veterans who seek employment and/or job training. Describe any other grants or resources your agency has that will support these efforts (e.g., Department of Labor (DOL) grants).
  - b. The strategies that will be used to support Veterans' income maximization goals through benefits (e.g., Supplemental Security Income and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSI/SSDI) Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR)).
  - c. Any other services that will be provided to improve financial management skills and ensure Veterans have the tools they need to maximize their ability to pay rent and live independently.
27. Project Plan 7 – In approximately 250 words, and by bed model if applicable, address how your agency will facilitate the provision of nutritious meals for the Veterans. For transitional housing applications, this plan should ensure Veterans have access to at least 3 meals, 7 days a week. Be sure to describe how Veterans with little or no income will be assisted. Service center applicants may determine if this question is applicable to their project and if not, may enter "not applicable."
28. Project Plan 8 – In approximately 250 words, and by bed model if applicable, describe how you will facilitate transportation of the Veteran participants to appointments, employment and supportive services. Service center applicants may determine if this question is applicable to their project and if not, may enter "not applicable."
29. Project Plan 9 – In approximately 250 words, and by bed model if applicable, describe how the safety, security and privacy of participants will be ensured. For

transitional housing applications, include the process for making daily contact with Veterans and for complying with residential supervision requirements, per 38 C.F.R. § 61.80(b)(13). Applicants proposing facilities with private or semi-private accommodations for Veterans are encouraged to discuss how the facilities contribute to the safety, security and privacy of participants. Service center applicants must discuss how the safety, security and privacy of participants will be ensured while at the service center.

30. Project Plan 10 – In approximately 250 words, and by bed model if applicable, describe policies regarding a clean and sober environment. Include how participant relapses will be handled and how these policies will support continued Veteran engagement in services. Applicants proposing facilities with private or semi-private accommodations for Veterans are encouraged to discuss how the facilities contribute to maintaining a clean and sober environment. Service center applicants must discuss how a clean and sober environment will be ensured while at the service center.
31. Project Plan 11 – In approximately 250 words, and by bed model if applicable, address whether the project will serve mixed gender populations. Provide a listing and explanation of any gender-specific services (as applicable). Applicants proposing facilities with private or semi-private accommodations for Veterans are encouraged to discuss how the facilities support serving mixed gender populations. Service center applicants discuss whether any gender-specific services will be provided at the service center.
32. Project Plan 12 – In approximately 250 words, and by bed model if applicable, describe any applicable participant agreements and participant fees. Security deposits or application fees are not allowable. Any fees charged must comply with the requirements of 38 C.F.R. § 61.82. Responses must include (as applicable):
  - a. An explanation of any policies and procedures regarding participant fees (e.g., rent) and/or extracurricular fees.
  - b. A discussion of how participants will be informed of fees.
  - c. Policies regarding participant agreements, including any leases and subleases.

Note: This question is not applicable to service centers. Service center applicants may enter “not applicable.”
33. Project Plan 13 – In approximately 750 words, and by bed model if applicable, address whether the project will serve Veterans with minor dependents in the transitional housing facility (see [Guidance for the Use of Funds section](#) and [Payment section](#)). Responses must include (as applicable):
  - a. A description of the case management services for minors.
  - b. An explanation for how supervision of minors will occur, particularly while the Veteran parent/guardian is off premises.

- c. How transportation of minors will be provided, especially for health care and educational needs.
  - d. How the health care needs of minors will be met, especially age-appropriate wellness visits and immunizations.
  - e. A discussion of how safety and security issues including admission screening and segregation from other project participants, if deemed appropriate, will be addressed. Address considerations like weapons, contraband, State or local requirements, medication management and general childproofing (if necessary). Applicants proposing facilities with private or semi-private accommodations for Veterans are encouraged to discuss how the facilities enable you to serve Veterans with minor dependents.
  - f. An explanation of staff training on abuse or neglect reporting requirements mandated by state or local jurisdiction.
  - g. A description of policies and procedures for reporting adverse events affecting minors and how your agency will define an adverse event. Note: This question is not applicable to service centers. Only transitional housing projects may request per diem support for Veterans with care of minor dependents. Service center applicants may enter “not applicable.”
34. Project Plan 14 – In approximately 250 words, describe how Veteran participants will have a voice and aid in operating and maintaining the facility(s) (e.g., volunteer time, paid positions, community governance meetings, peer support).
35. Project Plan 15 – In approximately 250 words, provide and describe the type of medication control system that will be used in this project (e.g., Medication Management, Medication Monitoring, individual storage). For reference, applicants may review Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) under the FAQs section of the GPD Provider website at [https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD\\_ProviderWebsite.asp](https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp).
36. Project Plan 16 – VA is committed to advancing equity and support for underserved and underrepresented communities. VA requires all projects to be nondiscriminatory and expects grantees to include strategies for nondiscrimination of any individuals based on factors including but not limited to race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sex characteristics, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, marital status, parental status or political affiliation. With that in mind, in approximately 250 words, describe the policies, procedures, admission criteria and strategies your organization employs to ensure equity and nondiscrimination.
37. Project Plan 17 – In approximately 500 words, describe how permanent affordable housing will be identified, offered, documented and facilitated for participants at all points during service delivery, from initial encounter, through project exit or post-encounter.

38. Project Plan 18 – Grantees are encouraged to enter data into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Currently, using HMIS is not mandatory but may become a requirement in the future. In approximately 250 words, describe your organization’s experience with the local HMIS (e.g., data entry, reporting, data analysis, formal or informal training, data quality approach, HMIS administrator and community relationships). For organizations without HMIS experience, describe your plan for gaining experience and expertise. Plans must be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and timebound.
39. Project Plan 19 – In approximately 250 words, if your agency plans to use any subrecipient(s) and/or contractor(s) for operating the project and/or maintaining the facility(s), describe the responsibilities of the subrecipient(s) and/or contractor(s). For each subrecipient or contractor, include the name, EIN, UEI and activity to be completed. Information provided here must align with that which is provided in the [Budget section](#). Note: Applicants must respond to the following model specific question(s) that correspond to the service model(s) applied for within the application.
40. Model Specific Project Plan: Bridge Housing Model 1 – The availability of permanent housing options is key to this model. In approximately 250 words, describe how your bridge housing is coordinated with permanent housing resources as part of a Housing First plan for Veterans experiencing homelessness. Be sure to describe how your project will be coordinated with local HUD-VASH, CoC and/or SSVF programs. Applicants who currently operate a GPD PDO grant with beds under this housing model must discuss successful strategies for implementing the model and how such strategies will be used during the proposed project.
41. Model Specific Project Plan: Bridge Housing Model 2 – In approximately 250 words, describe the process for referral to permanent housing.
42. Model Specific Project Plan: Bridge Housing Model 3 – In approximately 250 words, describe how ongoing care will be coordinated with the local permanent housing providers (e.g., care coordination between GPD and HUD-VASH).
43. Model Specific Project Plan: Clinical Treatment Model 1 – In approximately 500 words, describe if the proposed project will provide services to Veterans with substance abuse disorders and/or with mental health diagnoses. Also, describe the approaches used to treat the selected population(s). Include evidence-based approaches when possible. Although Veterans may choose to access care from VA, confirm that VA staff will not be the only treatment provider and that applicable treatment services will be provided by your agency (directly or through contract). Applicants who currently operate a GPD PDO grant with beds under this housing model must discuss successful strategies for implementing the model and how such strategies will be used during the proposed project.
44. Model Specific Project Plan: Clinical Treatment Model 2 – In approximately 250 words, describe how you will ensure that permanent housing and

employment/income improvements will occur concurrently with clinical treatment services and lead to successful outcomes.

45. Model Specific Project Plan: Hospital to Housing Model 1 – Because this model depends on referrals from the local VA medical facility, in approximately 500 words, describe how your agency will coordinate messaging about the availability of services to maximize appropriate referrals. Include a description of the assessment process for identifying potential candidates. Applicants who currently operate a GPD PDO grant with beds under this housing model must discuss successful strategies for implementing the model and how such strategies will be used during the proposed project.
46. Model Specific Project Plan: Hospital to Housing Model 2 – In approximately 250 words, discuss the collaboration efforts completed to date with the VA medical facility. Discuss ongoing collaboration efforts that are planned in order to implement this housing model. Applicants applying for this housing model must provide a memorandum of understanding (MOU) as part of the application (see [External Attachments section](#)).
47. Model Specific Project Plan: Low Demand Model 1 – In approximately 500 words, describe how your agency will manage a safe environment if a Veteran returns to the project impaired. Describe the safe environment including your agency's plan for using resources in a crisis (e.g., a sober lounge, a safe room). Describe how monitoring will be achieved and how Veterans who relapse will be engaged. Applicants who currently operate a GPD PDO grant with beds under this housing model must discuss successful strategies for implementing the model and how such strategies will be used during the proposed project.
48. Model Specific Project Plan: Low Demand Model 2 – In approximately 250 words, describe how 24/7, paid, appropriately trained, on-site supervision required for this model will be provided. Be sure to discuss the plan for staff coverage during evenings, weekends, holidays and other irregular scheduling times.
49. Model Specific Project Plan: Low Demand Model 3 – In approximately 250 words, describe the approaches that will be used to ensure barriers to accessing transitional housing are kept to a minimum, including not requiring sobriety or compliance with treatment for admission or continued stay in the program. Discuss strategies you will employ to keep the Veterans engaged in services.
50. Model Specific Project Plan: Service Intensive Model 1 – In approximately 500 words, describe how you will ensure that permanent housing and employment/income improvements will occur and lead to successful outcomes. Applicants who currently operate a GPD PDO grant with beds under this housing model must discuss successful strategies for implementing the model and how such strategies will be used during the proposed project.
51. Model Specific Project Plan: Service Center Model 1 – The success of service centers is based on engaging the unsheltered community of Veterans experiencing homelessness. In approximately 500 words, describe how your

agency will engage and influence Veterans to address their housing, physical, medical and mental health needs.

**Ability (see 38 C.F.R. § 61.13(d))**

52. Ability 1 – In approximately 500 words, describe your agency’s past performance with VA and non-VA projects. Responses must include (as applicable):

- a. Current GPD PDO grantees must discuss their performance under their PDO award from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2022. Include how many Veterans were served, and as applicable, average length of stay, number and percentage of Veterans that discharged to permanent housing, number and percentage of negative exits, number and percentage of Veterans employed at discharge and/or service center performance results.
- b. All applicants must discuss any current and past projects pertaining to the activities proposed in this application, including VA, non-VA, Federal, State, local and private grants or contracts and how this experience demonstrates your agency’s ability to successfully execute the proposed project.
- c. Include an explanation of any corrective action plans or performance improvement activities your agency has undertaken and the outcome(s).

53. Ability 2 – Complete the staffing plan table section of the application for this project (see Example 2). Successful applicants will be allowed to exceed the minimum standards during the grant period without the need for written prior approval from the GPD National Program Office, but they will not be allowed to reduce the standards. Position descriptions for up to four key positions may be attached. Do not include resumes. Identify differences between or among bed models if applicable.

Example 2:

<b>Job Title (Do not name specific names) (Agency, Contractors, Sub-contractors)</b>	<b>Brief (1–2 sentence) description of responsibilities</b>	<b><u>Minimum</u> required educational level</b>	<b>Hours per week allocated to the GPD project (40 hours equals full-time)</b>	<b>Number of FTE</b>	<b>Amount of annual salary allocated to the GPD project per year</b>	<b>Amount of salary, per job title, for the full-time equivalent position(s) per year</b>

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Case manager	Responsible for working with the Veteran to develop and monitor an individual service plan and to adjust the plan as needed. Coordinates support with other community agencies.	Bachelor's degree	60 hours	1.5	\$90,000	\$60,000
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54. Ability 3 – In approximately 250 words, describe your agency's ability to operationalize this project by October 1, 2023, in order to begin enrolling or serving Veterans as quickly as possible. Responses must include:

- a. A discussion of the start-up activities, the timing involved and when the project will be fully operational.
- b. An explanation of how your agency has already secured, or will secure, the facility(s) needed for the proposed number of beds and/or services.

55. Ability 4 – In approximately 750 words, describe your agency's previous experience and ability to effectively assist Veterans experiencing homelessness. Responses must include:

- a. An explanation of your experience with meeting past performance goals.
- b. Previous experience evaluating progress of individual participants and overall project effectiveness using quality and performance data to make changes.
- c. Previous experience assessing the needs of and providing supportive services to Veterans experiencing homelessness, including but not limited to, entitlement benefits, job training, mental health services and legal services.
- d. Previous experience using and receiving training in intensive case management services for Veterans experiencing homelessness. Applicants with previous experience in formal approaches such as critical time intervention, motivational interviewing, progressive engagement/progressive assistance or other formal approaches, should include descriptions.

56. Ability 5 – In approximately 250 words, describe whether your agency is accredited and/or licensed to provide clinical services. If yes, describe your agency's accreditation and/or licensure. If applicable, include specific details,

such as training completion dates, training titles and training providers. Some generally accepted accreditations include:

- a. Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities in Community Employment Services or in Rapid Rehousing and Homeless Prevention Program.
- b. A 4-year accreditation from the Council on Accreditation's accreditation in Housing Stabilization and Community Living Services standards.
- c. A 3-year accreditation in the Joint Commission's Behavioral Health Care: Housing Support Services Standards.

**Coordination (see 38 C.F.R. § 61.13(g))**

57. Coordination 1 – In approximately 500 words, describe how your agency, prior to submitting the application, coordinated directly with relevant partners about the proposed project. Responses must include:

- a. A description of coordination efforts with the VA medical facility Director (or the appropriate authorized representative, per the local practice). Clearly identify the VA points of coordination and discuss the outcome of past coordination efforts.
- b. A demonstration of your agency's understanding of how to coordinate medical care, substance use care and mental health services for Veterans with the VA medical facility and/or external partners, as needed.

58. Coordination 2 – In approximately 500 words, describe how this project has been coordinated with the community. Responses must include:

- a. A description of coordination efforts with the local CoCs. Include a discussion of how your agency coordinated with the CoCs in the past, as well as how the current need for the beds or services requested in this application fits into the overall community plan to end homelessness among Veterans.
- b. The community-based coordination activities your agency will continue to engage in as the project gets activated and as Veterans are enrolled or begin receiving services. Include how your organization is part of an ongoing community-wide planning process to end Veteran homelessness.

59. Coordination 3 – In approximately 250 words, discuss coordination strategies that your agency employs to support Veterans as they transition to permanent housing. This may include coordination with other programs (e.g., SSVF, DOL) and/or aftercare services or other follow-up activities.

Letters of coordination from the VA medical facility, CoC and/or other partners are not required but may be provided and may help substantiate information included in the application (see the [External Attachments section](#) at the end of the application). Applicants are strongly encouraged to allow as much time as possible, but no less than 30 days, for letters of coordination. All application materials must be submitted together



in a single package by the due date and time. Any materials arriving separately or late will not be accepted as part of the application.

Note: VA reserves the right to confirm with local VA medical facility staff or others any information related to an application. If information cannot be confirmed or if discrepancies are identified, VA reserves the right to adjust award decisions, to not select the application, to consider other application(s) in rank order or to make other remedies as appropriate.

### *Budget*

In addition to the part of the application that is scored (i.e., the [Detailed Application Design section](#)), this part of the application (i.e., Budget) is not scored but is required for an application to be considered complete. Information provided may impact award decisions (e.g., award amounts, specific conditions of award). Applications that are not complete may be rejected at threshold and not be considered for award.

60. Budget narrative – In approximately 250 words, describe how you calculated the costs of services and staffing proposed in the application. Explain how the project costs can be supported within the available per diem rate limits. For current per diem rate limits, refer to the GPD Provider website at [https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD\\_ProviderWebsite.asp](https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp). Identify the amount(s) and source(s) of other funding (aside from the funding requested in this application) that would be used to support project costs. Explain how other funding, if any, impacted the cost calculations for the activities proposed in this application. The narrative must demonstrate an understanding of and compliance with the guidelines in the NOFO, 38 C.F.R. part 61, Federal cost principles (2 C.F.R. part 200 subpart E) and other applicable funding requirements.

- a. If an applicant plans to provide pass-through funding to a subrecipient or to a contractor, the applicant must discuss cost calculations for each subrecipient or contractor. Applicants must comply with Subrecipient Monitoring and Management requirements in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.331-333. Information provided here must align with that which is provided in the [Project Plan section](#).
- b. See the [Guidance for the Use of Funds section](#) for details about indirect costs. Information provided here must align with that which is provided in the [Organization Profile section](#).

61. Assessment of Management Systems – In approximately 150 words, provide a description of your organization's financial stability, the quality of management systems, your ability to meet the management standards described in 2 C.F.R. part 200 and 38 C.F.R. part 61 and your ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory or other requirements imposed on non-Federal entities (per requirements such as 2 C.F.R. § 200.206(b)(2) and 38 C.F.R. § 61.12). Applicants who have received training on Federal grants management practices or who have registered for such training to happen in the near future may include the dates, titles and providers of the training.

*Organization Leadership*

62. Complete the organization leadership table. At minimum, this table must include the positions with the following titles or equivalent titles: Executive Director, Chief Financial Officer and Project Manager. The table also must include a complete list of the current Board of Directors. For each position include name, title, phone number and email address. See also [Conflicts of Interest section](#).

Example 3:

Name	Title	Phone number	Email address
Thi Nguyen	Executive Director	111-222-3333	<a href="mailto:email@address.org">email@address.org</a>
Anisa Osman	Chief Financial Officer	111-222-3333	<a href="mailto:email@address.org">email@address.org</a>
Marco Aguilar	Project Officer	111-222-3333	<a href="mailto:email@address.org">email@address.org</a>
Angel Banmeke	Chair, Board of Directors	111-222-3333	<a href="mailto:email@address.org">email@address.org</a>
Lei Yang	Treasurer, Board of Directors	111-222-3333	<a href="mailto:email@address.org">email@address.org</a>

*External Attachments*

When submitting an attachment in spreadsheet or table format, applicants are encouraged to convert to portable document format (PDF) prior to submission. Applicants who submit materials in PDF are encouraged to submit a native PDF (i.e., a machine-readable PDF, not an image only nor a scanned PDF), if possible.

63. Applicants may provide required and optional materials as attachments, including:
- a. SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance. (required)
  - b. Letter(s) of coordination. (optional)
  - c. Position descriptions for up to four key positions may be attached. Do not include resumes. (optional)
  - d. MOU. (required for Hospital to Housing bed model)
  - e. Other. (optional)

**Standard Form (SF)**

Provide as an attachment the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standard form Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424). The SF-424 must be signed by a person at the applicant organization who is authorized to make legal commitments on behalf of the organization. The signature on the SF-424 must be digital or hand-written. A blank signature field or a “signature” that is manually typed will not be accepted. VA reserves the right to communicate with an applicant, as needed, prior to making threshold

decisions. A signature on the SF-424 indicates the applicant agrees to comply with all SF-424B Non-Construction Assurances and terms and conditions of award. Applicants do not need to submit the SF-424B with the application. Instead, the applicant agrees to the assurances by maintaining an active registration in SAM. For awareness; however, applicants may refer to the GPD website for a list of assurances and for a sample standard terms and conditions of award.

### **Hospital to Housing MOU**

Applicants for the Hospital to Housing model, must provide as an attachment an up-to-date MOU between the local VA medical facility (i.e., the VA medical facility Director or the appropriate authorized representative per the local practice) and the applicant. See [External Attachments section](#). The MOU must demonstrate the local VA medical facility's detailed participation in the Hospital to Housing project. Include in the MOU the acceptance criteria for Veterans being referred from local inpatient care settings and local emergency departments. Also include how follow-up care with the VA medical facility is organized and a commitment to engaging enrolled Veterans in permanent housing as part of the program. If an application does not include an MOU, VA reserves the right not to award any Hospital to Housing beds even if the application is otherwise selected for funding. Applicants are strongly encouraged to allow as much time as possible, and no less than 30 days, for a VA medical facility to provide an MOU. All application materials must be submitted together in a single package by the due date and time. Any materials arriving separately or late will not be accepted as part of the application.

### *Certifications*

64. By signing and submitting this application for Federal assistance, I agree to the following:
- a. The applicant organization commits to implementing a low barrier approach to providing services to Veterans, which generally means service occurs on the same day from the point of identification or referral to the GPD project, or within no more than 72 hours, as described in the [Definitions section](#) of this NOFO.
  - b. The applicant commits to engaging in the local coordinated entry process and the by-name list, as appropriate.
  - c. The applicant commits to having written standard operating procedures on conflicts of interest (see [Conflicts of Interest section](#) later in the NOFO).
  - d. The applicant commits to ensuring staff supported by grant funds are trained annually regarding suicide prevention and commits to having written standard operating procedures on suicide prevention developed in consultation with the local VA medical facility.
  - e. The applicant commits to ensuring staff supported by grant funds are trained annually regarding equity and inclusion and commits to having written standard operating procedures on nondiscrimination of any individuals based on factors including but not limited to race, color,

religion, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sex characteristics, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, marital status, parental status or political affiliation.

- f. The applicant organization commits to complying with all applicable requirements for the grant including, but not limited to, 38 C.F.R. part 61, 2 C.F.R. part 200, Federal cost principles, terms and conditions of award, requirements in the NOFO, performance measures and reporting requirements.
- g. The applicant does not have any past due SF-425 Federal Financial Report (FFR) or any other outstanding requirement under any GPD grant.
- h. If the applicant organization is the recipient of an FY 2022 GPD capital grant: The applicant commits to submitting a strongly competitive application for the next PDO transitional housing grant opportunity(s) (e.g., for FY 2027). The applicant commits to maintaining capital bed numbers and occupancy levels. The applicant commits this at least until the expiration of the period during which VA could seek recovery under 38 C.F.R. § 61.67. Failure to do so may result in an immediate full or partial capital grant repayment.

## **B. Scoring**

Applications will be scored according to 38 C.F.R. § 61.32.

## **V. Review and Selection Process**

### **A. Application Review**

Pursuant to 38 C.F.R § 61.30, VA may provide per diem only funds to entities that are eligible to receive a capital grant. Therefore, an applicant must meet the initial threshold review requirements of 38 C.F.R. § 61.12(i). Applications must be submitted on time, in the correct format, be complete, from an eligible entity and for eligible activities. Not meeting these criteria may result in the application being rejected at threshold and not being considered for award.

Applications that meet threshold will be scored. VA may use historical program documents of past performance, both VA and non-VA, including those from other Federal, state and local agencies as well as audits by private or public entities in determining scores. Applications will be ranked in score order. Applications that receive the minimum score to be eligible for selection will be considered in score order until available funding is exhausted.

All applications (transitional housing and service center applications) that are received and pass threshold will be reviewed, scored and ranked for funding together as a group. Applications will be selected for funding based on their ranked order.

Reviewers will give consideration to applications that demonstrate having currently available facility(s). Reviewers also will give consideration to applications that propose private or semi-private accommodations for Veterans. Applications that propose congregate or open bay accommodations or bunkbed configurations will be considered

less responsive to this NOFO than those that propose individualized accommodations. All scores may be impacted by these considerations.

## **B. Application Selection**

The selection process may be found at 38 C.F.R. § 61.32. In case of a discrepancy between information provided by the applicant and other information available to VA, VA reserves the right to make funding decisions based on all available information or to not select an application as described earlier.

Depending on factors such as the quantity and quality of applications received and the availability of funding, VA reserves the right to make additional rounds of conditional selections from this NOFO to the eligible pool of applicants, to reduce the number of beds awarded or to take other actions as appropriate. VA reserves the right to negotiate with applicants as needed to accomplish the overall goals and objective.

Consistent with 2 C.F.R. § 200.206(b), VA evaluates risk posed by applicants at any time pre-award and/or post-award. Special conditions, adjustments or remedies corresponding to the degree of risk may be applied to an award (2 C.F.R. §§ 200.206, 200.208, 200.339). Risk evaluations may include but are not limited to an evaluation of the applicant's eligibility, the quality of its application, the needs of the community, the organization's financial stability, management systems and standards, the history of performance, the status of Single Audit reports, an ability to effectively implement requirements, the status of any VA or other Federal debt and the findings of any VA fiscal reviews.

### *Tie Score*

In the event of a tie score between applications, VA will use the score from the [Coordination section](#) to determine the ranking, as required by 38 C.F.R. § 61.32(b). If further determinations are needed to break a tie, VA will decide at its discretion how to handle selection decisions (e.g., selecting multiple applications for award, awarding for less than requested, reducing beds). VA will consider the intent of this NOFO to provide per diem payments for facilitating housing stabilization for Veterans experiencing homelessness. VA's discretionary funding decisions are final.

### *Funding Actions*

VA will provide funding to all eligible applicants in score order as described in this NOFO until eligible applications or funding is exhausted. Funding is not guaranteed. Conditionally selected applicants may be asked to submit additional information. Applicants will be notified of the deadline to submit such information. If an applicant is unable to meet any conditions for the grant award within the specified time, VA may non-select the applicant and may use the funding for another applicant(s). VA may negotiate arrangements with conditionally selected applicants and will incorporate any changes into the grant agreement. Prior to awarding a grant agreement, VA reserves the right to make upward or downward adjustments to factors including but not limited to bed numbers, services, project period dates, funding levels, locations or dollars amounts, including adjustments that exceed the limits of the NOFO, as needed within the intent of this NOFO. Adjustments may be based on a variety of factors including the

quantity and quality of applications, the needs of the community, geographic dispersion, as well as the availability of funding.

VA will consider any information that comes to its attention, including information in the designated integrity and performance system, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics and performance under Federal awards. VA may not make a Federal award to an applicant if the applicant has not complied with all applicable UEI and/or SAM requirements. Applicants may refer to 2 C.F.R. part 200, 2 C.F.R. part 25 and [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov) for more information.

If an applicant has not fully complied by the time the Federal awarding agency is ready to make a Federal award, the Federal awarding agency may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal award and may use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant. VA may elect to negotiate an increase to another conditionally selected applicant(s), to award additional applications, to publish another funding opportunity or to take other actions based on factors such as the availability of funds and quality of applications. Signature of the grant agreement by the Secretary, or designated representative, indicates final selection is completed and the grant funds will be obligated for the funding period.

## **VI. Award Administration Information**

### **A. Award Notice**

Although subject to change, the GPD National Program Office expects to announce grant awards around the fourth quarter of FY 2023 (i.e., July-September 2023). The initial announcement will be made through a news release which will be posted on the GPD program website at [www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp). VA anticipates that the grants will be for a period of three years. Continuation funding is not guaranteed. VA reserves the right in any year to make adjustments (e.g., to funding levels, bed numbers, services, locations, performance targets, dates) as needed within the intent of the NOFO based on a variety of factors including availability of funding and performance.

GPD will notify both successful and unsuccessful applicants. Only a grant agreement with a VA signature is evidence of an award and is an authorizing document allowing costs to be incurred against the grant award. Other notices, letters or announcements are not authorizing documents. Applicants may incur eligible project costs up to 90 calendar days before the start of the award without written prior approval. Any costs incurred before VA makes the award are at the applicant's risk. VA is not required to reimburse such costs if for any reason the applicant does not receive a Federal award, if the costs are determined to be unallowable or if the Federal award is less than anticipated or inadequate to cover such costs (see also 2 C.F.R. § 200.458).

The grant agreement includes terms and conditions of award. Sample terms and conditions are available on the GPD website at <https://www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp>, including requirements such as prohibition on covered telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment (2 C.F.R. § 200.216), debarment and suspension (2 C.F.R. part 180), as well as integrity and performance reporting (2 C.F.R. part 200 Appendix XII).



Grantees agree to implement a Housing First low barrier approach to providing services to Veterans. Grantees agree to have policies and procedures for maintaining low barriers through the provision of service, including for Veterans who relapse.

The applicant's signature on the SF-424, including electronic signature, constitutes a binding offer by the applicant and constitutes agreement to the terms and conditions. VA may elect to award funds with or without discussions with the applicant. Applicants may review GPD's general terms and conditions of award at any time on the GPD website at <https://www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp>.

Monthly reimbursements will be issued to grantees based on costs incurred. Awards under this NOFO are dependent on funding availability and program authorization. Future years may be impacted by factors such as carry forward amounts, performance, caseloads, risk assessment or organizational financial stability and management standards. At any time during the grant, VA reserves the right to make upward or downward adjustments to factors including but not limited to bed numbers, services, project period dates or dollars amounts including adjustments that exceed the limits stated in this NOFO as appropriate to accomplish the overall goals and objective.

### **B. Administrative and National Policy**

VA places great emphasis on responsibility and accountability. VA has procedures in place to monitor grants provided under this NOFO.

Federal funding must be expended, and grant projects must be implemented, in full accordance with the U.S. Constitution, Federal Law and public policy requirements, including, but not limited to, those protecting free speech, religious liberty, public welfare, the environment and prohibiting discrimination (2 C.F.R. § 200.300(a)).

Grantees are responsible for complying with all requirements of the Federal award. For all Federal awards this includes the provisions of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act, which includes requirements on executive compensation, and other requirements found at 2 C.F.R. parts 25 and 170. Grantees and their employees are also subject to the whistleblower rights and remedies established in 41 U.S.C. § 4712.

#### *Conflicts of Interest*

Consistent with 2 C.F.R. § 200.112, grantees must disclose in writing any potential conflict of interest to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity immediately and no less frequently than annually thereafter.

The conflict of interest guidance for general procurement standards (2 C.F.R. § 200.318) will be applied to other grant actions beyond procurement actions. Specifically, grantees must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees or other personnel engaged in activities funded from the GPD grant, to the selection, award and administration of contracts. No employee, officer or agent may participate in the selection, award or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, agent, any member of the immediate family, a partner or an organization which employs or is about

to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract. The officers, employees and agents of the grantee organization may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. However, grantees may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial, or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. The standards of conduct must provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards.

#### *Suicide Prevention*

Grantees must ensure staff supported by grant funds are trained annually regarding suicide prevention and how to address situations in which Veterans demonstrate suicidal ideation. Standard operating procedures are to be developed on suicide prevention in consultation with your local VA medical facility. VA training is available at [https://www.va.gov/EMPLOYEEEDUCATION/ees\\_vha\\_train.asp](https://www.va.gov/EMPLOYEEEDUCATION/ees_vha_train.asp), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=49Vg-xM9L7Q>. Suicide Prevention Coordinator (for in-person training) locator is available at <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help/local-resources>.

#### *Equity and Inclusion*

Grantees must ensure staff supported by grant funds are trained annually regarding equity and inclusion. Standard operating procedures are to be developed on nondiscrimination of any individuals based on factors including but not limited to race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sex characteristics, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, marital status, parental status or political affiliation. VA training is available at [https://www.va.gov/EMPLOYEEEDUCATION/ees\\_vha\\_train.asp](https://www.va.gov/EMPLOYEEEDUCATION/ees_vha_train.asp).

#### *Life Safety Code*

Grantees must meet the requirements of the current edition of the Life Safety Code of the National Fire Protection Association as it relates to the specific GPD facility(s). Grantees should note that all facilities must be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system unless a facility is specifically exempt under the Life Safety Code. Applicants should consider this when submitting their grant applications, as no funds will be made available without meeting these requirements.

#### *Inspections*

Grantees must pass a VA inspection. Grantees must receive an activation date from VA after each unit or facility passes inspection. Activation dates indicate the date on or after which a grantee may admit a Veteran into the inspected unit or facility. All projects must pass inspection and be able to start serving Veterans as of October 1, 2023, and no later than 180 days from the award start date (38 C.F.R § 61.30(c)). Failure to establish the grant within 180 days will result in termination of the grant and may impact future award decisions (38 C.F.R. § 61.12(i)).

All units must be reinspected no less frequently than annually. Reinspection of occupied units require advance planning and must be started early to avoid delays. VA reserves



the right to withhold payments, reduce beds, terminate a grant or take other action as appropriate when inspection or reinspection requirements are delayed.

### **C. Payment**

1. Under this NOFO, VA will make payments in a method consistent with VA policy and other Federal fiscal requirements. Payments are only for allowable costs, as specified under OMB cost principles for grants, for the activities outlined in this NOFO. All payment specifics will be given to the grantee at the time of award. Grantees are subject to requirements of this NOFO, 2 C.F.R. part 200, 38 C.F.R. part 61 and other Federal grant requirements. A full copy of the regulations governing the GPD program is available at the GPD website at [www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp). Grantees will be required to support their request for payments with adequate fiscal documentation, including program income and expenses.
2. Per diem payments:
  - a. Payments for Veterans will be at a rate not to exceed what is allowed by statute, which at the time of NOFO publication is not to exceed 115% of the current VA State Home per diem rate for domiciliary care as set by the Secretary under 38 U.S.C. §§ 1741(a)(1) and 2012.
  - b. Payments for Veterans with care of minor dependent(s) may include an amount of an additional 50% of the daily cost of care per minor dependent. The cost for minor dependents of a Veteran may be supported from the grant when the Veteran is in the GPD unit at the same time (see [Guidance for the Use of Funds section](#)).
  - c. The per diem payment calculation may be found at 38 C.F.R. § 61.33 and current maximum per diem rates are available on the GPD provider website at [https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD\\_ProviderWebsite.asp](https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp).
3. Payment vouchers: Grantees are required to submit properly prepared and fully documented vouchers within 30 days of the end of each month. Grantees who are unsure if their submission is properly prepared and fully documented should submit early to allow time for review and resubmission no later than 30 days after the end of each month.
4. Per-item cost documentation:
  - a. At any time, including prior to payment, VA reserves the right to request documentation for any item of cost.
  - b. Grantees are advised to keep careful records, including documentation of cost calculations (e.g., itemized invoices) and of cost reasonableness.
  - c. Grantees are advised to keep documentation of having secured any voluntary leveraged funding from other sources if applicable.

### **D. Program Evaluation**

1. Grantees will participate in VA's national project monitoring and evaluation to determine successful outcomes. Each grantee's performance will be measured against established performance targets. For the targets associated with each metric, refer to the [Service Model Descriptions section](#) of the NOFO.
2. Grantees who do not meet the performance measures or who otherwise perform or appear to perform less than satisfactorily (e.g., as a result of a risk assessment or due to information regarding the organization's financial stability or management standards) may be subject to additional conditions of award. Additional conditions may include but are not limited to increased reporting or monitoring, bed reductions, withholding, suspension, termination or other remedies for non-compliance at VA's discretion. VA reserves the right to add, remove or change, at any time during the award period, performance measures, targets, bed numbers, services, grant payment amounts, payment schedule or other grant requirements.
3. VA's overall performance for all grants funded from this NOFO will be measured against the same criteria and targets used for each grant (see D.1.a-c).

#### **E. Monitoring and Reporting**

1. Monitoring
  - a. Grantees will work with a GPD Liaison from a nearby VA medical facility who will provide oversight and monitoring.
  - b. For transitional housing grants, it is expected that Veterans will transition to permanent housing within an average of 6-12 months (or less depending on the housing model) and not to exceed 24 months. Grantees must work closely with Veterans to support timely transitions to permanent housing.
  - c. Grantees may not make significant changes to a project after a grant is awarded without written prior approval from the GPD National Program Office. VA reserves the right to disallow services provided by the grantee if VA determines that they are of unacceptable quality, in which case grant funds may not be used to pay for them.
  - d. Transitional supportive housing grantees funded for multiple bed models may flex between or among bed models under a single grant within the same VA medical facility catchment area. Flex is allowed as described below without requesting prior approval. Grantees who seek a greater amount of flex must receive written prior approval from the GPD National Program Office through the change of scope process.
    - i. Flex is allowed for up to five beds per grant.
    - ii. Flex is allowed for up to 15 beds per grant provided that at least 10 beds are flexed into any housing model *except* Service Intensive (i.e., Bridge, Hospital to Housing, Low Demand, Clinical Treatment).

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- e. The project must be used principally to furnish to Veterans the level of care for which the application was made. Not more than 25% of participants at any one time will be non-Veterans (38 C.F.R. § 61.31(b)(5)).
  - f. Low bed utilization may result in bed reductions and may impact future award or option year(s) decisions.
  - g. Grantees who received a GPD capital grant starting in FY 2022, must maintain an active PDO transitional housing grant at least until the expiration of the minimum period during which VA could seek recovery (38 C.F.R. § 61.67). VA will seek recovery for awarded capital grant funds on a prorated basis if at any time during the minimum operational period a grantee no longer has an active GPD PDO transitional housing grant and/or if a grantee does not maintain bed numbers and occupancy levels.
  - h. Grantees are responsible for monitoring and managing their subrecipients if applicable (2 C.F.R. §§ 200.331-333).
  - i. All grantees are subject to fiscal reviews and/or audits conducted by VA or its representative.
  - j. Monitoring may include a review of the agency's income and expenses as they relate to this project to ensure payment is accurate and to ensure compliance with program requirements.
2. Reporting
- a. Performance reporting: Quarterly reviews will be conducted by VA of each grantee. At minimum, grantees will provide information on their performance and their progress helping Veterans gain and maintain housing stability, adequate income support and self-sufficiency as identified in the application. Grantees also may be required to provide information on financial and management activities to ensure compliance with Federal and VA requirements. The grantee will be expected to demonstrate adherence to the proposed project concept, as described in the application, as well as requirements defined by the regulations and this NOFO.
  - b. Financial reporting: An annual SF-425 FFR is required to be submitted within 120 days of the end of each grant year (e.g., no later than by January 31). Grantees who do not submit on time are subject to being withheld from receiving payments temporarily pending receipt of the report. An FFR form is available on the GPD provider website at [https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD\\_ProviderWebsite.asp](https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp) or on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). Instructions for submission also are on the GPD provider website.
3. Closeout

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- a. A final SF-425 FFR is due within 120 days of the grant end date. Grantees who do not comply are subject to public reporting for material failure to comply with the terms of the award on the Federal websites, FAPIIS and SAM (per 2 C.F.R. § 200.344).
- b. Grantees must promptly refund any balances of unobligated funding that are not authorized to be retained. Any funds paid to the grantee in excess of the amount to which the grantee is finally determined to be entitled under the terms of the Federal award constitute a debt to the Federal Government (2 C.F.R. § 200.346).
- c. Refer to the terms and conditions of the grant agreement for other closeout requirements and ongoing requirements after closeout (e.g., audit, records retention). A sample of the standard terms and conditions of award is available on the GPD website at [https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD\\_ProviderWebsite.asp](https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp).

**Signing Authority**

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or designee, approved this document and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) for publication electronically as an official document of VA. Denis McDonough, Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, approved this document for publication.