**VA Grant & Per Diem (GPD)**

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# Partnerships with Faith-Based and Neighborhood Organizations

**Written Notice to Veterans about Protections**

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**Template Language for ALL GPD Grantees**

## INSTRUCTIONS

Consistent with the requirements of [38 C.F.R. part 50](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-38/chapter-I/part-50), all GPD grantees who serve Veterans under a GPD-funded project must give written notice to beneficiaries (e.g., Veterans) and prospective beneficiaries. This written notice must provide information about protections against religious discrimination. Grantees are responsible for ensuring that subrecipients comply with this requirement.

**This requirement applies to all GPD grantees** regardless of the grant type (i.e., transitional housing, service center, case management) and regardless of the organization type (e.g., non-profit, State government, local government, Tribal government, faith-based organization, non-faith-based organization, housing authority).

The following template language may be used to provide notice according to your organization’s operating procedures. Each organization’s written notices may vary depending on internal practices (e.g., handout, poster, signed agreement); however, the language must be substantially similar to the template text and grantees are responsible for proactively communicating the message.

Written notice to beneficiaries must be provided no later than **July 2, 2024**, and ongoing after that as new beneficiaries and prospective beneficiaries are identified.

For more guidance, watch the April 2024 Operational Webinar, available on the GPD provider website: <https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp>.



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**Template Language for ALL GPD Grantees**

REMINDER: This template is required for all GPD grant types that serve Veterans and is required for all grantee organization types regardless of the character of the organization. See instructions on page 1 for details.

## TEMPLATE

**Name of Organization:** [*insert grantee name*]

**Name of Program:** Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Grant and Per Diem (GPD) Program

**Contact Information for VA’s GPD Program Office**: [*insert local VA medical facility’s homeless program team’s contact info*] or [GPDgrants@va.gov](mailto:GPDgrants@va.gov).

Because this program is supported in whole or in part by financial assistance from the Federal Government, we are required by [38 C.F.R. part 50](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-38/chapter-I/part-50) to let you know that:

1. We may not discriminate against you based on religion, a religious belief, a refusal to hold a religious belief, or a refusal to attend or participate in a religious practice.
2. We may not require you to attend or participate in any explicitly religious activities (including activities that involve overt religious content such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization) that may be offered by our organization, and any participation by you in such activities must be purely voluntary.
3. We must separate in time or location any privately funded explicitly religious activities (including activities that involve overt religious content such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization) from activities supported with direct Federal financial assistance.
4. You may report violations of these protections, including any denials of services or benefits by an organization, by contacting or filing a written complaint with the grant program office using the contact information set forth above.
5. If you would like to seek information about whether there are any other organizations that provide these kinds of services in your area, including Federally funded organizations, please use the contact information above.

As of July 2, 2024, this written notice must be given to you before you enroll in the program or receive services from the program. When it is impractical to provide such notice before we provide the service, this notice must be given to you at the earliest available opportunity. In the case of GPD transitional supportive housing and other related services, notice might be provided after we begin providing the service if earlier notice would result in a barrier or delayed entry.