

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

VA Grant & Per Diem National Office

Webinar for Operational GPD Grantees

May 11, 2021

Recording

Link: <https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/ldr.php?RCID=d0706751312b5487e455025f36348bae>

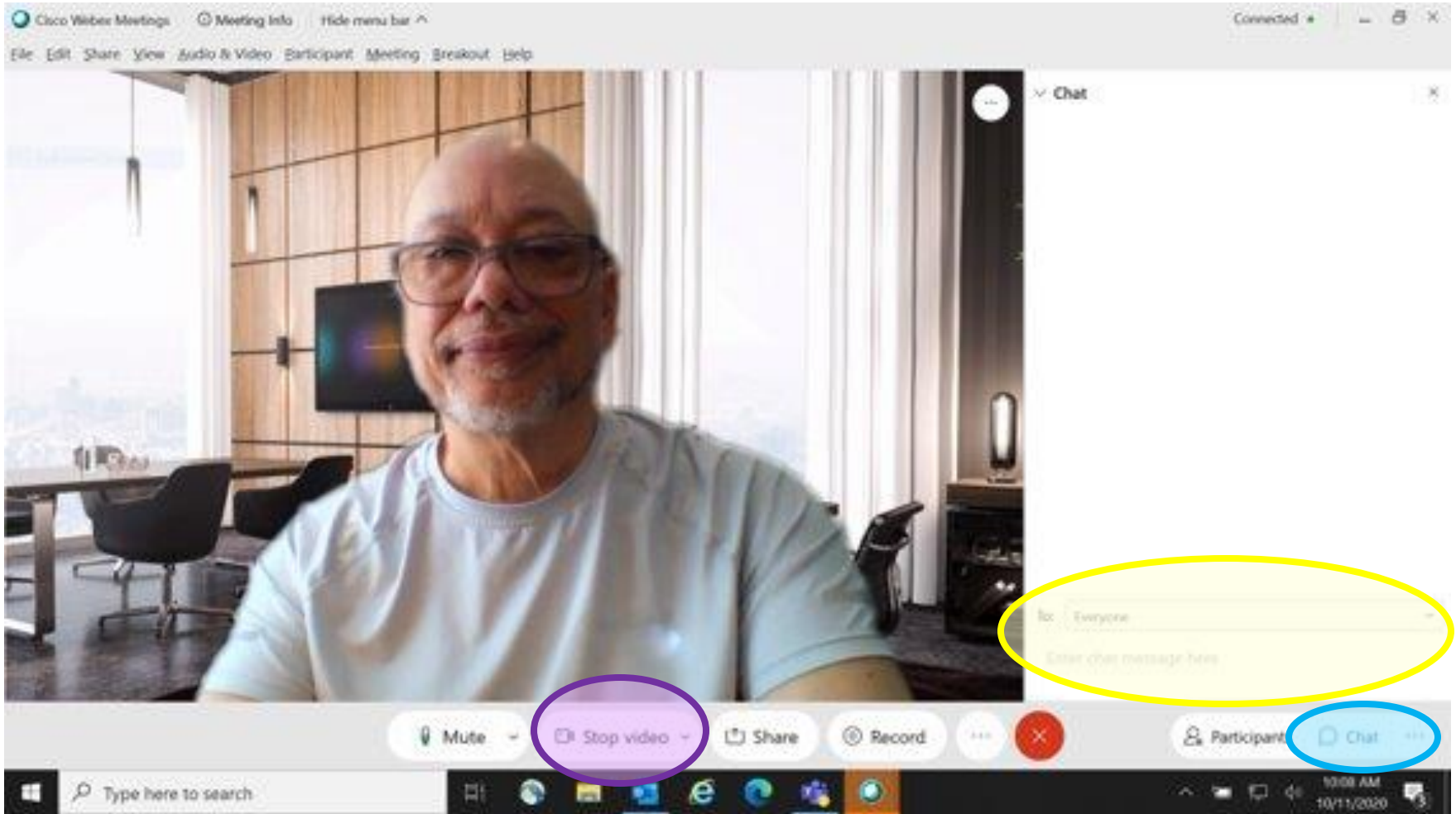
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VIEWING THROUGH WEBEX





AGENDA

Agenda



- Announcements
 - Option Year Reminder
 - Extended PDO projects
 - Special Need update
 - SQUARES Workshop
 - Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP)
 - Case Management Grant Office Hours
- Office of Business Oversight
- Per Diem for Minor Dependents Update
- Capital Grant NOFO



ANNOUNCEMENT – PER DIEM ONLY (PDO) OPTION YEAR 1

- The PDO awards that began on October 1, 2020 are 1-year awards
 - Includes two (2) one-year options for VA
- There is no NOFO for these PDO awards
 - No re-application requirement
- GPD Office will be sending out instructions before the end of the 3rd Quarter for grant recipients to express their interest in Option Year 1 funding





EXTENDED PER DIEM ONLY PROJECTS





SPECIAL NEED NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY



- Special Need NOFO closed May 5, 2021
 - Anticipate award notifications late in 4th Quarter
- Reminder current Special Need grants will end September 30, 2021



SQUARES WORKSHOP



REGISTER: SQUARES Workshop, May 20th, 2021 from 12:00 to 2:00 pm EST

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Salesforce are hosting a SQUARES Workshop to educate users about new SQUARES functionality that will help organizations connect Veterans with programs and services. The agenda includes information about the importance of providing fast and accurate services to homeless or at-risk Veterans, live demonstrations, information about eligibility verification, along with designated time for questions and answers. Follow the links below for further information and registration. (Registration limits are currently set at 300 participants.)

Registration Link: [Webex Events \(classic\)](#)



VETERAN RAPID RETRAINING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (VRRAP)

Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP)

- For Veterans who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has launched the [Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program \(VRRAP\)](#)
- Veterans participating in VRRAP will receive up to 12 months of tuition and fees and a monthly housing allowance based on Post-9/11 GI Bill rates. A Veteran must meet the following criteria for eligibility:
 - At least 22 years old, but not older than 66, and
 - Unemployed because of the COVID-19 pandemic, and
 - Not eligible for GI Bill or VR&E benefits (or, if you're eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, you've transferred all your benefits to a family member(s)), and
 - Not rated as totally disabled because not able to work, and
 - Not enrolled in a federal or state jobs program, and
 - Not receiving unemployment benefits (including CARES Act benefits)



VETERAN RAPID RETRAINING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (VRRAP)

- The VRRAP [webpage](#) provides information about participating educational institutions and more, and [applications are available](#) here.
- VRRAP was enacted on March 11 and is part of the [American Rescue Plan](#), a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus package, with aid targeted to assist individuals and businesses recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- If you are aware of any GI Bill Beneficiaries who require assistance, please have them contact the Education Call Center at 888-442-4551 between 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Central Time, Monday-Friday to speak with a representative.



ANNOUNCEMENT – CASE MANAGEMENT GRANT SUPPORT

- **Case Management Grantees:**
Quarterly “Office Hours” Available
- **2pm Eastern; WebEx**
- **First Thursdays, Every Three Months**
 - May 6th
 - August 5th
 - November 4th
- Please email GPDGrants for invite as needed
 - <https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/j.php?MTID=m7e42d7526badc4a922cb2dfc5256e79c>
- **Intention:** Less formal, practice sharing, open Q&A
 - Requests for specific topics may also be made in advance

HUD-VASH GPD
Collaborative Case
Management (CCM)
Participants

- Monthly Office Hours Now Available
- Last Wednesday of each month, 2pm Eastern; Microsoft Teams



OFFICE OF BUSINESS OVERSIGHT

- **Upcoming Fiscal Reviews:**
 - **Aurora Comprehensive Community Mental Health Center** – May 11-13, 2021
 - **Mechling Shakley** – May 18-20, 2021
 - **VOA Southwest California, Inc.** – June 8-10, 2021
 - **Transition Projects, Inc.** – June 22-24, 2021
 - **New Directions** – July 13-15, 2021
 - **The Baltimore Station** – July 20-22, 2021
- **SF-425 Update:**
 - Please submit SF-425's to GPD425@va.gov
 - FY 2019 - 50 SF-425's have not been submitted as of 5/10/2021
 - FY 2020 - 108 SF-425's have not been submitted as of 5/10/2021
 - Grantees should be aware that late SF-425 reports may impact the program office's decision to continue the grant
 - OBO emailed grantees who have not submitted their SF-425 and are 90 days past due



PER DIEM FOR VETERANS WITH MINOR DEPENDENTS

- P.L. 116-315, *Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020* provided GPD the **authority to authorize payments for minor dependents of Veterans enrolled at GPD facilities**
- In addition to the daily per diem paid for the Veteran, an amount that equals **50 percent of daily cost of care may be paid for a Veteran who has care of minor dependents**
 - *In other words, grantees may bill an additional 50% of the approved per diem rate per each minor dependent in the facility*



PER DIEM FOR VETERANS WITH MINOR DEPENDENTS

- The GPD office currently defines minor dependents as someone who is **unmarried, is a member of the Veteran's household, and is under age 22 or is age 22 or over and was considered permanently incapable of self-support before reaching the age of 22**
- New authority for GPD
 - Regulations currently under development.
 - Implementation will occur while regulations being developed



PER DIEM FOR VETERANS WITH MINOR DEPENDENTS

- This does not allow for increases in bed/grant awards
 - However, grantees may serve up to five minors at one time beyond their award
- Our office is developing the following guidance:
 - Change of Scope request and per diem rate process
 - An informational document
 - A special supplemental checklist to help interested grantee
 - Instructions on how to submit to our office
- **More information will be forthcoming on the [GPD Provider Website](#) in June**



CAPITAL GRANT NOFO



**Deadline is
Tuesday
May 25,
2021
@ 4pm
Eastern**



CAPITAL GRANT NOFO

- **\$50M available to decrease risk in congregate living spaces**
 - Purchase, build, or renovate existing GPD beds from congregate beds into private bedroom and bathroom units (same VAMC catchment area)
 - Grants are capped at \$50,000 per bed (maximum \$2.5 million per award)
 - Normal match requirement is waived, along with OMB real property disposition requirements
- **Reduces public health risk associated with shared living space for vulnerable Veterans**
 - COVID highlighted infection control challenges in congregate settings
- **Providing greater privacy may improve your organization's ability to engage Veterans in services**
- **Offering individualized housing may make future applications more competitive or align with future funding priorities**



CAPITAL GRANT NOFO: QUICK QUESTIONS



My current GPD site cannot be reasonably configured for individual units. Can I submit a capital application to acquire a new site?



The NOFO funding limits are not enough to support improving all my beds. Can I submit a capital application to purchase a new site for a small portion of my beds?



My GPD is located in a high-cost area. Can I pair other funding sources to complete the capital project?



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of Veterans Affairs



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