

Grant and Per Diem Operational Call

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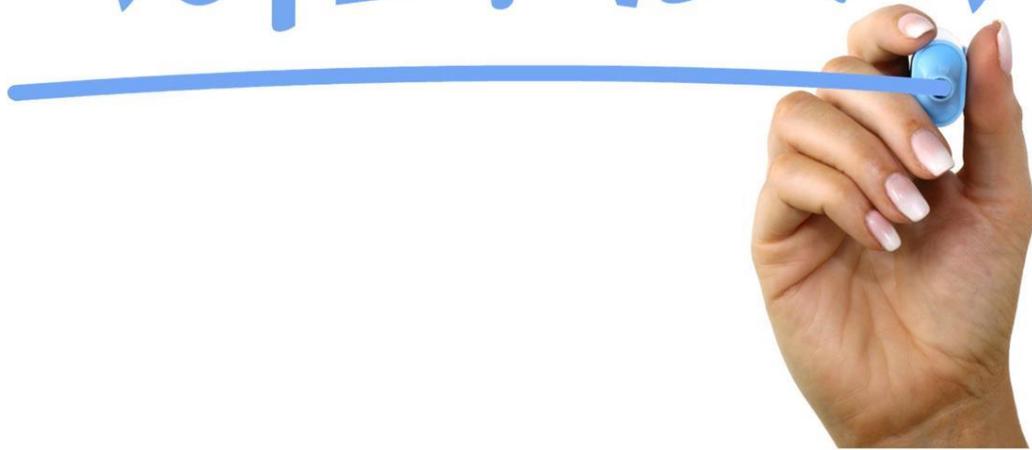
Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 2pm Eastern/11am Pacific

Visuals: <http://va-eerc-ees.adobeconnect.com/gpdbh/>

Audio: 1-800-767-1750 Code: 17663#

GPD Operational Call Agenda

AGENDA

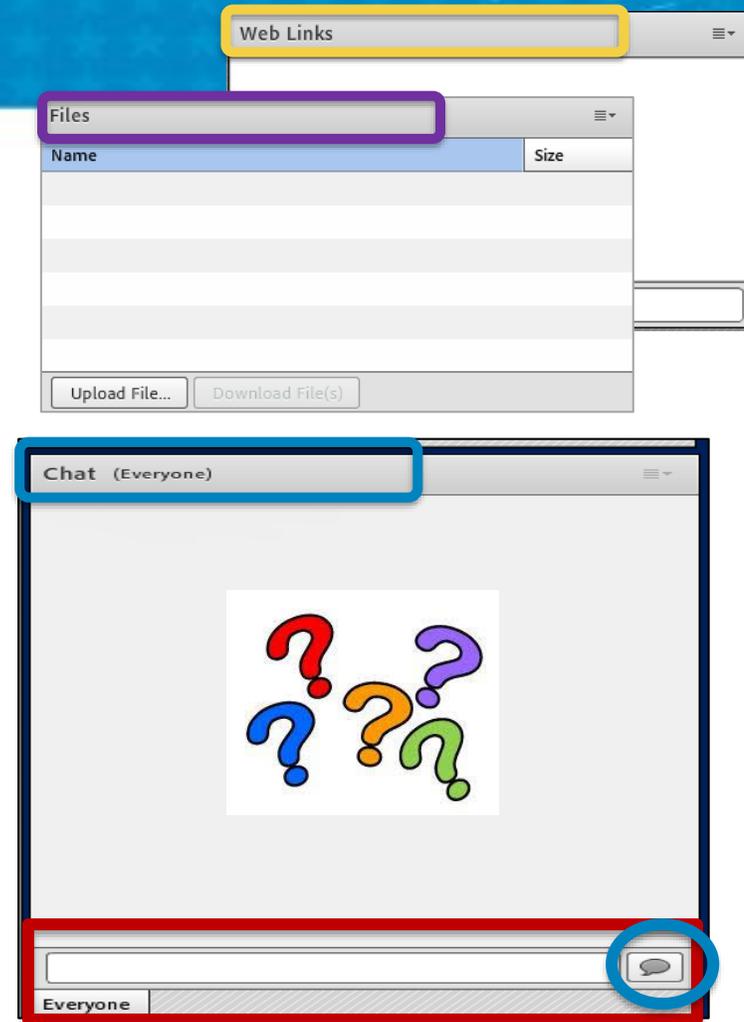


- GPD Announcements/Updates
 - 2020 NOFAs
 - COVID-19 Update
- Office of Business Oversight
- VA Homeless Veterans Dental Program

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Webinar Format

- The webinar will last approximately 60 minutes.
- The VANTs line will be muted due to the high number of callers.
- Questions can be submitted using the *Chat* function.
- Copies of the slides are posted to the *Files* pod in Adobe Connect; *Web Links* are a resource.



GPD Program Office Announcements and Updates: NOFA Status

- Conditional selection notifications for Per Diem Only, Special Need and Transition in Place awards are complete
 - Award packages under review with VA Central Office
 - Awards are not final until signed by Secretary VA
- Notifications of current grant awards ending distributed
 - Non selected for current NOFA
 - Applications not received from current grantees by deadline

GPD Program Office Announcements and Updates: NOFA Status

- Current grantees whose awards will be ending September 30, 2020
 - Instructions included in email notification sent through GIFTS
 - Work with GPD liaison to transition Veterans prior to September 30, 2020
- Grantees were offered one-year extension to continue to serve who were admitted prior to October 1, 2020
 - Allow to complete Veterans episode of care
 - Must be requested in writing to GPD Office through gpdgrants@va.gov by September 20, 2020
 - Per Diem will not be paid for any Veterans admitted after September 30, 2020

Winding Down Grants



United States COVID-19 Cases and Deaths by State

Reported to the CDC since January 21, 2020

USA
2,982,900
TOTAL CASES
CDC | Updated: Jul 8 2020 8:00PM

USA
131,065
TOTAL DEATHS
CDC | Updated: Jul 8 2020 8:00PM

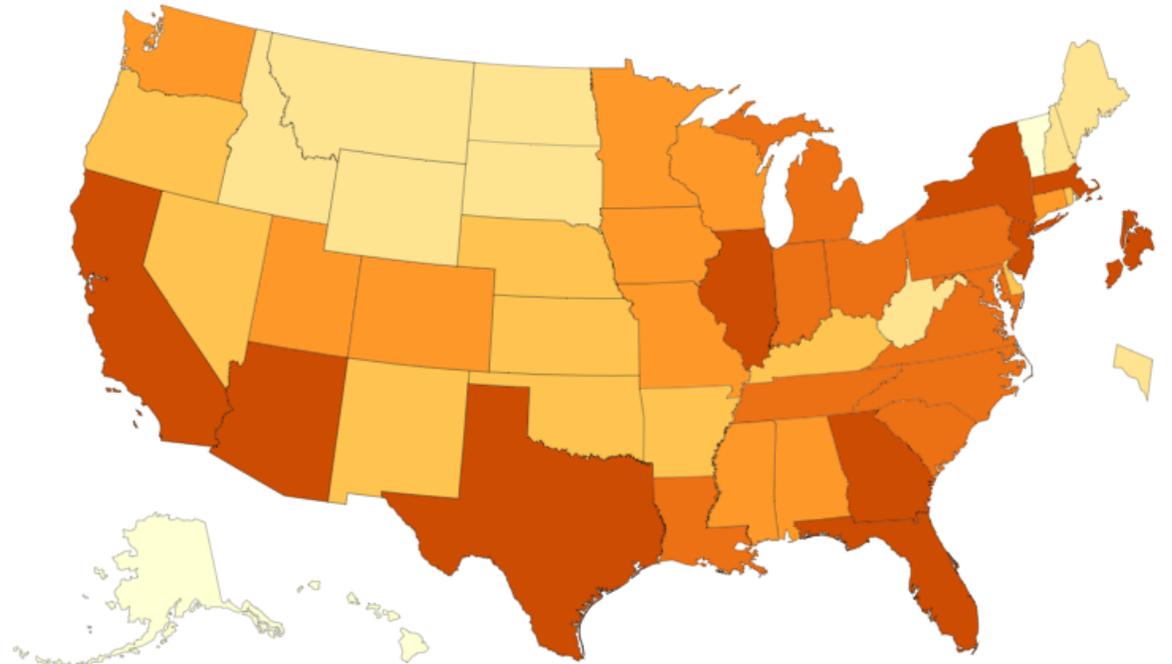
USA
910
Cases per 100,000
People
CDC | Updated: Jul 8 2020 8:00PM

Total Cases by State/Territory

State/Territory	Total Cases	Confirmed	Probable
California	277,774	N/A	N/A
New York City*	219,176	214,570	4,606
Florida	210,594	N/A	N/A
Texas	210,585	N/A	N/A
New York*	180,749	N/A	N/A
New Jersey	173,878	N/A	N/A
Illinois	149,574	148,452	1,122
Massachusetts	110,338	104,799	5,539
Arizona	105,094	104,572	522
Georgia	100,470	N/A	N/A
Pennsylvania	92,148	89,515	2,633

Total Cases | Cases in Last 7 Days | Cases per 100,000 | Total Deaths | Deaths per 100,000

Total Number of COVID-19 Cases in the US Reported to the CDC, by State/Territory



Territories
 AS FSM GU MP PR PW RMI VI



Poll Question #1

1. Have Veterans in your GPD program(s) been tested for COVID-19?
 - a. No, Veterans not generally being tested
 - b. Veteran testing if symptomatic
 - c. We have conducted program-wide testing once
 - d. We have conducted program-wide testing more than once

Poll Question #2

2. Do you currently use hotel/motel rooms for isolation/quarantine or social distancing in GPD?
 - a. Yes we are using hotel/motel rooms
 - b. No, we have isolation space within our transitional housing or other leased space
 - c. No, Veterans have individual housing units
 - d. No, difficulty providing staffing and services to Veterans in hotel/motels
 - e. No, limited availability of motel/hotel space in my community
 - f. No, but we plan to be using motel/hotels in the near future
 - g. Other

State of GPD - Occupancy Trend

VISN Selected: NATIONAL TOTAL

Facility Selected: All

Program Selected: GPD

Data as of July 09, 2020

Note: The prior months represent the census on the last day of each month. The current month represents the current census.



Maximizing GPD Safely

Responding to Pandemic Onset (Past)



Program Adaptations (Present)



Long Term Planning (Present and Future)



Program Adaptation Question

What can we do to use the flexibility we now have to ensure we can safely maximize our capacity, and effectively help Veterans end their homelessness?

GPD Program Office Announcements and Updates: COVID-19 Update

- Reminder of various resource documents available on GPD provider website
 - [Wellness & Symptom Checks for COVID-19 Positive & Presumptive Positive Veterans In Hotels and Motels](#)
 - [GPD Isolation Options](#)
 - [GPD CARES Act Implementation Guidance](#)
 - Links to Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance
- Be sure to coordinate with local health departments, VA Medical centers regarding

GPD Program Office Announcements and Updates: Per Diem Rate Waivers

- CARES Act allows the Secretary to waive any limits on the rates of per diem payments
- GPD is *temporarily* removing the existing cap on per diem rates for PDO, TIP, and Service Center grants
- Per diem rate increases are **not** automatic; grantees must submit a rate request
- For further information consult GPD Provider website
https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp

CARES Act Statutory Language:

(b) GRANTS AND PER DIEM PAYMENTS.—In the case of a public health emergency, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may waive any limits on—

- (1) grant amounts under sections 2011 and 2061 of title 38, United States Code; and
- (2) rates for per diem payments under sections 2012 and 2061 of such title.

Emergency Preparedness/Disaster Plans

38 CFR Part 61

§ 61.80 General operation requirements for supportive housing and service centers.

(m) Each recipient that provides housing and services must have a written disaster plan that has been coordinated with the emergency management entity responsible for the locality in which the project exists. The plan must encompass natural and manmade disasters.

- Plans covering pandemic/illness outbreak include:
 - Public health strategies (e.g. handwashing, covering nose/mouth, staying healthy)
 - Infection control (e.g. disinfecting property, creating isolation rooms for those who are sick)
 - Communicating with departments of public health and VA liaisons

Emergency Preparedness/Disaster Plans (Cont'd)

Grantees:

- Are strongly encouraged to work with their local VA medical centers to amend their Emergency Plans to include infectious diseases/pandemics.
- Should coordinate with the emergency management entity in their locale to develop a proactive plan

GPD Liaisons:

- Should request to view the plan over the summer and provide feedback in time for any changes to be made prior to the start of the inspection cycle in October
- Although this regulatory provision does not specifically mandate that pandemics be included in the plan, given the current nationwide public health emergency, it would be reasonable for the VISN/VAMC's to request grantees take steps to outline a plan that includes this situation

GPD Disaster Planning

Planning guidance for transitional housing programs:

- CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/shared-congregate-house/guidance-shared-congregate-housing.html>
- HUD: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Infectious-Disease-Toolkit-for-CoCs-Preventing-and-Managing-the-Spread-of-Infectious-Disease-within-Shelters.pdf> (for emergency shelters but applicable information)

Public health and infection control guidance:

- CDC: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html?utm_source=HUD+Exchange+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=8b1f3959f9-Infectious+Disease+Guidance+Homeless+3.9.20&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f32b935a5f-8b1f3959f9-19281185
- ASAM: <https://www.asam.org/Quality-Science/covid-19-coronavirus/infection-mitigation-in-residential-treatment-facilities>

GPD Disaster Planning

General resource with webinars, community info exchange, guidance:

- NHCHC: <https://nhchc.org/clinical-practice/diseases-and-conditions/influenza/>
- SAMHSA: <https://www.samhsa.gov/coronavirus>

CDC's guidance page for Homeless Service Providers to Plan and Respond to COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/plan-prepare-respond.html>

Office of Business Oversight

- **Federal Contractors**
 - Gentech Associates, Inc. and KPMG
- **Upcoming Desk Reviews**
 - Erie United Methodist Alliance, Erie, PA – August 10-14, 2020
 - Community Rebuilders, Grand Rapids, MI – August 24-28, 2020
 - Homeless Veteran Emergency Housing, Palo Alto, CA – August 24-28, 2020
- **Upcoming GPD Grantee Training– September 22-24, 2020**
 - Cost Principles Training Course
 - Financial Management Systems

Homeless Veterans Dental Program and Initiative

Grant and Per Diem Program Call

July 14, 2020



Elizabeth Nunez DMD MST
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Director of Education
VHA Office of Dentistry
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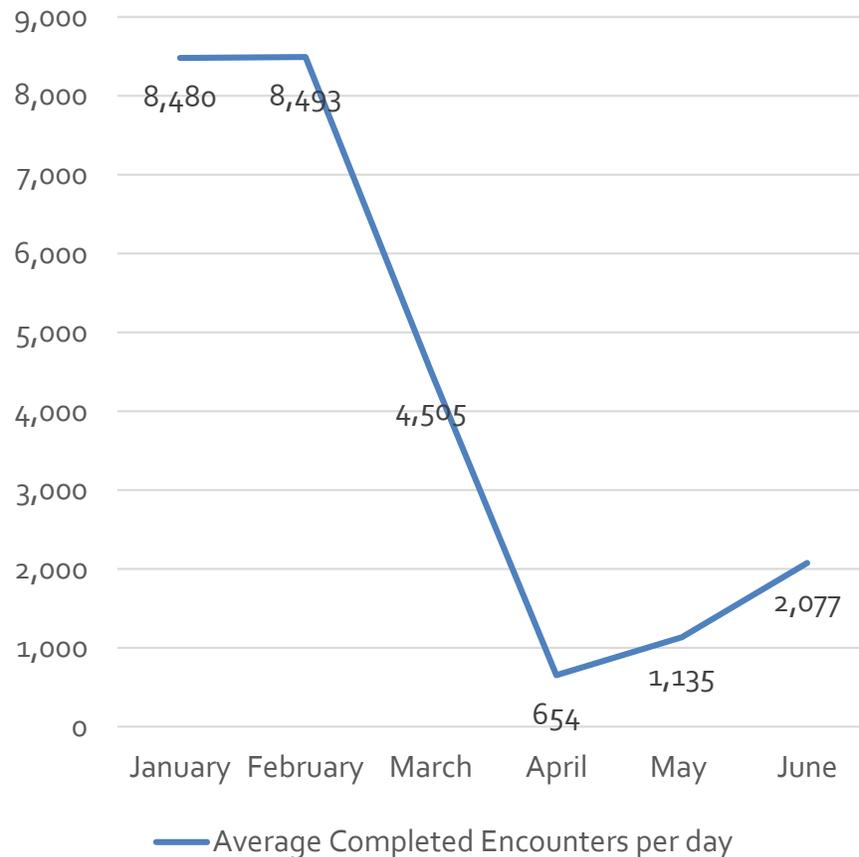
VA Dentistry: A Quick Overview

- 215+ sites of care with ~7500 daily encounters PRE-COVID-19
- ~1/2 M Veterans treated at VA facilities last year
- ~3,300 total staff, including ~ 1,020 dentists
- Referrals to Community Care partners

Homeless Veterans Receiving Dental Care

- Those Veterans eligible for the Homeless Veterans Dental Program
- Tracked as Dental Classification IIb
- FY 2019 – ~17,000 Veterans treated
- This group represents ~ 3 % of VA dental patients

Dentistry in the COVID-19 Era



- Nationally, VA Dentistry is currently operating at 26% of normal capacity, up from 14% in May.
- Although many facilities across the enterprise are beginning to resume elective procedures, those in the South and West experiencing disease surges have phased back down to emergent and urgent care only.
- Dental procedures are considered to be high risk due to aerosolization of COVID. Due to this risk, it is assumed that dental will need an increased number of PPE than other clinics.
- We will see an increase in completed cases as dental clinics are able to proceed with openings in July.



Office of Dentistry

Homeless Veterans Dental Program

OUR MISSION

Honor America's Veterans, particularly those who are facing homelessness, by facilitating improvements in access to oral health that contribute to their overall well being and to their success in VA-sponsored homeless rehabilitation programs.

Eligibility Guidelines

- In place since 2002
- Limited outpatient benefits for a course of dental care
- Necessary for Veteran to:
 1. gain/regain employment
 2. alleviate pain
 3. treat periodontal pathology
- Veteran must be:
 1. enrolled in VA healthcare system
 2. in a rehabilitation program for 60 consecutive days

Eligibility Guidelines: Included Programs

1. Domiciliary Residential Rehabilitation Program
 2. Compensated Work Therapy /Transitional Residence
 3. Grant and per Diem
 4. Health Care for Homeless Veterans (contract beds only)
 5. Community Residential Care Home or Program (includes MFH)
- } Mental Health
- } Homeless
- } Geriatrics & Extended Care

Homeless Veterans Dental Initiative

- All sites are expected to provide care to eligible Veterans, but the HVDI \$ can be used when/if Dental Chiefs request it
- HVDI limited to dedicated Class IIb, on-station, non-FTEE dental providers
- FY 2020 \$5,675,054 dispersed among 43 facilities
- Centralized funding has helped to:
 - raise awareness and
 - operationalize local processes to enhance care

Summary / Action

- Elective dental care has diminished dramatically because of COVID-19.
- Some facilities are now slowly ramping up elective care.
- Recognizing that the HVDP/Class IIB veterans have time-limited eligibility requirements, it is important for case managers to verify when they meet these requirements in CPRS and use an EHR consult process for dental care requests.
- Having documentation will protect the Veteran when/if they return for elective care sometime in the future.

Resources and References

- VHA Dental Handbook 1130.01
- Title 38 U.S.C. § 2062
- Local facility policy
- HVDP FAQ:

<https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/VHAVACODental/PH/HVDP-FAQs.pdf>

Questions and Feedback



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