

Conference Call Highlights
Grant and Per Diem Program Operational Call
January 8, 2014

1. Mr. Matt McGahran presided over the Conference Call.
2. The next Continuing Education presentation is Thursday, January 16, 2014 at 2:00 pm EST. Call in number is 800-767-1750; access code is 50286#.
3. Discharges. There is significant concern about the impacts of such discharges to the health of the homeless from exposure to the elements. The Office of General Counsel provided the informal opinion that allows VA to continue to pay per diem to the GPD provider (benefits to the Veteran) during a period of due process to which they are entitled. Therefore, we will continue to pay per diem to the GPD provider during this period. Reinforce your continued work with homeless Veterans and GPD funded organizations while in GPD programs to ensure Veterans are not discharged to the street for issues like rule violations. We hope that all options for continued engagement will be explored and if not successful, appropriate referral and placement alternatives provided. With issues of violence and/or threats of violence, staff and Veteran safety within the programs are a priority. The negative discharge goal is less than 30%. A discharge to a hospital is negative. A discharge for violence is not counted.
4. Liaison responsibility. Service to homeless Veterans is a collaborative effort between the VA and the Provider. Coordination of care is shown through assessment, planning, monitoring advocacy and referral activities. Liaisons should be involved with treatment planning. Individual Service Plans (or treatment plans) need to be reviewed at least quarterly to determine the progress of the Veteran and determine if any areas need to be changed. There are three main goals of the GPD Program:
 - a) Achieve residential stability
 - b) Increase skill levels and/or income
 - c) Obtain greater self-determination
5. Quarterly Reports are due by the 31st of January. Review the objectives and goals. If necessary, request a change of scope. If you have questions, contact Matt McGahran at 877-332-0334.
6. Concerns that HUD-VASH and SSVF are accepting Veterans from GPD rather quickly. Not all Veterans are adapted to permanent living so soon. The Medical Center needs to screen/assess each Veteran to determine which program is best for that individual. There are three different VA programs for the different types of homeless Veterans.
7. If a Veteran is gone for an extended period of time, GPD will only pay the Provider for three days. VA regulations state if the Veteran is gone for 14 days, he/she must be discharged.
8. The next Operations Call is February 10, 2016 at 3:00 pm EST. Call in number is 1-800-767-1750; access code 17663. Our office sends a broadcast fax reminding providers of the monthly call.