Grant/Per Diem Provider Call Highlights
May 9, 2016; 3:00 pm EST

1) Jeffery Quarles, Director, Grant and Per Diem (GPD) Program presided over the Call. He welcomed Janine Griggs from Renton WA. Janine in on detail through August 2016 to assist Amanda Barry with technical assistance regarding Bridge Housing. They will also be assisting with improving program performance.

2) Next month, Anthony Love from Veterans Health Administration Homeless office in Washington DC will be a guest speaker. He will be discussing the federal bench mark on ending homelessness.

3) Auditors from Financial Service Center in Austin will be conducting site visits throughout the year.

4) Bridge Housing. There is a Change of Scope template on the GPD Provider website in the Helpful Resources area.

5) Questions from the field:

Are Transition-in-Place (TIP) projects eligible for Bridge Housing? No. TIP projects are already designed for the permanent housing outcome.

Any update on a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for renewing all GPD Projects? All information is being reviewed. There are a large variety of steps required. If this matter is approved, there will be a long transition period (approximately a year) from start to finish.

What is the correlation between Low Demand and Bridge Housing? Low Demand is designed for Veterans who have struggled in traditional GPD programs. Some have little or no commitment to recovery. There are a few GPD projects currently housing Low Demand Veterans. Bridge Housing is a short-stay program for Veterans who have been offered and accepted a permanent housing option, but that housing is not yet available.

Bridge Housing Change of Scope. There are plans to visit San Diego in the near future. If a project wants to submit a Change of Scope regarding Bridge Housing, that can be submitted at any time. Providers are reminded to coordinate/discuss Bridge Housing with their applicable Medical Center.

Are there funds available to repair damage to facilities caused by Veterans? There are no funds specifically for repairs. If a project is not at the current per diem rate of $43.32, that project can submit a Per Diem Rate Worksheet asking for an increase. Providers can also charge Veterans participant fees based on their monthly income. Those funds can be used for repairs. Providers can contact Home Depot, IKEA, and Veteran’s organizations in their area to see if there is any assistance available.

Will there be a per diem rate increase? Not at this time. Once the GPD office receives next year’s budget information, a per diem rate increase may be possible.

Is there a requirement to provide internet and cable TV service? That depends whether or not a provider annotated internet and cable service would be provided in their original application. The GPD regulation does not specify that internet and cable will be provided.

Here is a list of web pages that you may find helpful:

Main GPD Website: http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD.asp
GPD Provider Site: http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp
CHALENG Site: http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/chaleng.asp
Federal Register Site: http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/browse.html

Next Operations Call is scheduled for June 13, 2016 @ 3:00 pm EST