

WELCOME TO GRANT AND PER DIEM

**NEW AWARD
ORIENTATION**

HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS

- ▶ Options for joining the presentation today
 - ▶ Adobe Connect
 - ▶ Pull the presentation down via the GPD provider website https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp
 - ▶ Presentation will be recorded and can be provided upon request via email gpdinquiry@va.gov
- ▶ Call will be in lecture mode for the benefit of the participants
 - ▶ Questions in the chat box
 - ▶ GPDgrants@va.gov email

WELCOME

- ▶ Much of what we review today will be in your recipient guide that will be sent with your award letter and grant agreement
- ▶ Recipient guide lots of information, will be needed as future reference.
 - ▶ Guide also posted on GPD provider website:
https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp

AGENDA

- ▶ General Program Information
- ▶ Award Information
- ▶ Relationship with VA Medical Center and GPD Liaisons
- ▶ Inspections
- ▶ Grant Performance
- ▶ Per Diem Payments
- ▶ Financial reporting and oversight
- ▶ Resource information

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ Grantees should be familiar with regulations associated with GPD (38 CFR Part 61)
 - ▶ Link to our regulations on GPD website www.va.gov/homeless/GPD.asp
- ▶ Award to provide transitional housing for a period not to exceed 24 months.
 - ▶ Rare extensions beyond 24 months can be approved by GPD liaison
 - ▶ Stays must be individualized
 - ▶ Average stay in GPD in Fiscal Year 2018 is 166 days.
 - ▶ Bridge housing model short stay model with target of 90 days

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ VA will not pay for more than three admissions to without a wavier, which must be approved by the GPD liaison
- ▶ Grantees expected to provide the services that are described in their grant application
 - ▶ Changes to the services or staffing in the grant application must be requested and approved by GPD office by change of scope.
 - ▶ See GPD Provider website for information.
 - ▶ Organizations that have multiple models should match homeless Veterans with the most appropriate model and not develop plans to move Veterans from model to model

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ *Flexibility of Beds (applies to Per Diem Only awards only)* – applies to applicants that have successfully awarded more than one model
 - ▶ VA will allow, without a change of scope, a flex of beds between the applicant's models at the same VAMC
 - ▶ This flex will be up to five (5) beds or 15 percent of the total awarded bed limit per medical center, whichever is greater
 - ▶ Any change greater than this would require written approval from the GPD Office
 - ▶ Note if your organization has Fiscal Year 2018 and 2019 the flexing guidelines apply to all the beds for your organization at that same medical center.

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ Flexing beds example #1
 - ▶ Watson's Transition housing has three models monitored by the Tampa VAMC
 - ▶ 10 Bridge beds
 - ▶ 10 Clinical Treatment beds
 - ▶ 10 Service Intensive beds
 - ▶ What is the total number of beds that can be flexed between the models?

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ Flexing beds example #1 answer
- ▶ The answer would be 5 beds
- ▶ 15% of 30 beds would be 4.5 which is less than 5
- ▶ Therefore, 5 would be the number of beds that can be flexed between models

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ Flexing beds example #2
 - ▶ Barry House has 40 Clinical Treatment, 30 Service Intensive and 10 Hospital to Housing beds in Orlando
 - ▶ How many beds can Barry House flex to Bridge Housing?

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ Flexing beds example #2 answer
 - ▶ The correct answer would be zero beds can be flexed to bridge housing
 - ▶ Barry House was not awarded any bridge housing beds and therefore cannot flex to a model they are not authorized to provide

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ GPD has six transitional housing models
 - ▶ Bridge
 - ▶ Clinical Treatment
 - ▶ Hospital to Housing
 - ▶ Low Demand
 - ▶ Service Intensive
 - ▶ Transition in Place

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ **Bridge Housing** - Short stay transitional housing for homeless Veterans that have been offered and accepted a permanent housing intervention but are not able to immediately enter the permanent housing
 - ▶ Permanent housing intervention includes but not limited to acceptance in HUD-VASH or SSVF, or other community permanent housing or rapid rehousing program.
 - ▶ Veterans must have been offered and accepted a permanent housing intervention prior to admission or within the first 14 days of admission

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ **Clinical Treatment** - provides Substance Use Disorder and/Mental Health focused treatment in conjunction with services effective in helping Veterans experiencing homelessness secure permanent housing and increase income through benefits and/or employment
 - ▶ Programming and services have a strong clinical focus, *permanent housing and increased income are a required outcome of the program*

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ **Hospital to Housing** -transitional housing model to address the housing and recuperative care needs of homeless Veterans who have been hospitalized (inpatient) and/or evaluated in an emergency room
 - ▶ Meeting the need of homeless Veterans who would otherwise remain in the hospital or have limited follow-up for recuperative care
 - ▶ VA provides medical and/or mental health follow-up, GPD provides transitional housing

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ **Low Demand** - model utilizes a low demand/harm reduction strategy to serve homeless Veterans that cannot be reached by traditional homeless programs
 - ▶ No pre-treatment, commitments to treatment/recovery required
- ▶ Overall, demands are kept to a minimum; however, services are available as needed. The goal is to establish permanent housing in the community, while providing for the safety of staff and residents

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ **Service Intensive** - provides transitional housing and a milieu of services that facilitate individual stabilization and movement to permanent housing
- ▶ Services should incorporate tactics to increase the Veteran's income through employment and/or benefits and obtaining permanent housing

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ **Transition in Place** - model offers Veteran residents housing in which support services transition out of the residence over time
- ▶ As supportive services end, Veteran assumes responsibility for the unit as their transitional housing (transitioning in place)
 - ▶ Services move Veteran remains in housing
 - ▶ Not intended for use with HUD VASH -if Veteran in need of permanent supportive housing that should be the initial referral
- ▶ Read closely the information on what the characteristics are for the living unit
 - ▶ See recipient guide or NOFA for stated characteristics required for housing unit

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ **Service Centers** – Provides services and information to engage and aid homeless Veterans obtain housing and services
 - ▶ Non-residential resource, typically drop in center, homeless resource center
 - ▶ Operates minimum of 40 hours per week, 5 days per week
- ▶ Additional details on service center operational requirements can be found in GPD regulations (38 CFR 61.80 (k)-(l))

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ Each of the transitional housing models have associated performance metrics as stated in the NOFA
- ▶ The three performance metrics relate to exits to permanent housing, negative exits and employment
- ▶ VA will track performance metrics for each transitional housing model
 - ▶ Your GPD liaison receives this information monthly on a scorecard
 - ▶ Meet with your liaison to review the results of the metrics for your grant
- ▶ Detailed information on the metrics is available in the GPD recipient guide
 - ▶ Metrics will be a topic for a future GPD Operational call

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ▶ Program Evaluation information- Notice of Funding Availability noted that each funded program will participate in VA's national program monitoring and evaluation
- ▶ Homeless Operations Management and Evaluation System (HOMES) gathers data on every Veteran participating in GPD transitional housing
 - ▶ GPD liaisons input information into the system, which includes entry and exit information
 - ▶ Vital for good collaboration between GPD funded provider and GPD liaison to ensure timely and accurate information on each Veteran is provided

AWARD INFORMATION

- ▶ Each grant tied to your Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN)
- ▶ Grant agreement lays out award requirements
 - ▶ Maintain a copy of your grant agreement for your records
- ▶ *All grant projects expected to be operation by December 31, 2018*
- ▶ Grant cycle for transitional housing will require all grantees to re-apply in FY 2020 for new awards that will start in FY 2021 (October 1, 2020).
- ▶ To activate your award your grant must pass an inspection by the local VA Medical Center (VAMC), have an approved per diem rate and receive official notification from our office.

AWARD INFORMATION

- ▶ **Per Diem Only Awards- period of 1 year with a one (1) year option**
 - ▶ The option year does not require re-application, there is a simple request to exercise the option year and a brief progress report.
 - ▶ If VA exercises the option year you will be asked to sign a new grant agreement through our office.

- ▶ **Transition in Place awards- a period of two years**
 - ▶ The award supports an average number of beds per day during the award period
 - ▶ Award cannot be increased, thus closely monitoring the grant award utilization is vital throughout the award period

RELATIONSHIP WITH VAMC AND LIAISON

- ▶ Each GPD grant is assigned to a local medical center
 - ▶ Coordination with VA resources, when appropriate
 - ▶ Payment, monitoring, inspections
 - ▶ Each grant has a GPD liaison assigned to the project by the local VAMC
- ▶ The GPD liaison will be your primary point of contact
 - ▶ If you have not been contacted by your liaison let our office know and we will work with the medical center to facilitate contact via GPDinquiry@va.gov

RELATIONSHIP WITH VAMC AND LIAISON

- ▶ Liaison will regularly visit the site, meet with Veterans and your program staff to monitor care, case conference and serve as point of contact with VAMC
 - ▶ Talk with Veterans to assess their satisfaction with services
 - ▶ Coordinate unannounced Nutrition reviews (at least bi-annually)
- ▶ Liaison verifies admission and discharge dates for billing purposes

INSPECTIONS

- ▶ VA right to inspect 38 CFR 61.65
- ▶ Multidisciplinary review of GPD funded grants by local VAMC
 - ▶ Ensure regulatory/program requirements compliance
 - ▶ Coordinated by VA GPD liaison and conducted by team from local VAMC
- ▶ All grants must be inspected at least once annually
 - ▶ Initial inspections are required to activate project
 - ▶ Additional inspections based grant compliance concerns by portions or entire inspection team

INSPECTIONS

- ▶ Have a discussion with the GPD liaison regarding the inspection checklist, which will denote the regulatory/inspection standards you will need to meet
- ▶ Deficiencies are items that do not meet inspection standards and must be corrected to pass the inspection
- ▶ Inspection team may also offer best practice suggestions for program improvement
- ▶ Bi-annual nutrition reviews- unscheduled reviews by VA nutrition team member must occur at least twice annual

GRANT PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

- ▶ As a grant recipient you are expected to;
 - ▶ Conform to GPD regulations (38 CFR Part 61)
 - ▶ Provide the services described in your grant application
 - ▶ Meet any state and/or local requirements for your facility/service
 - ▶ *Includes any licensing requirements to provide your treatment services*
 - ▶ Meet all applicable requirements described in the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

PER DIEM PAYMENTS

- ▶ VA may provide per diem funds to offset operating costs for a program of supportive housing or services (38 CFR 61.30(a))
 - ▶ Current maximum rate is \$45.79
Maximum service center rate is \$5.72
Maximum Transition In Place (TIP) rate is \$68.69
- ▶ For transitional housing, billing will be based on bed days of care multiplied by the established per diem rate for each FAIN
- ▶ For service centers, billing will be based on each hour of service provided.
- ▶ Instructions on how to calculate and request a per diem rate on the GPD Provider website https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp
 - ▶ Per diem rate questions GPDFiscal@va.gov

FINANCIAL REPORTING AND OVERSIGHT

- ▶ Federal Financial Report- SF 425
 - ▶ Reporting Frequency- annually covering the period of October 1- September 30
- ▶ Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circulars 2 CFR 200.501
 - ▶ If your agency expends \$750,000 federal funds during fiscal year must have a single audit in accordance with 2 CFR 200.514
- ▶ Office of Internal Controls (OIC) - GPD has agreement with OIC audit team to provide audit services of GPD funded grants
 - ▶ Review of Federal Financial Reports
 - ▶ On site financial reviews and desk audits
 - ▶ Educational webinars

RESOURCE INFORMATION

- ▶ GPD [website-www.va.gov/homeless/GPD.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/GPD.asp)
- ▶ GPD Provider webpage
https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp
 - ▶ Various documents and program support information for grantees
 - ▶ Recipient guides
 - ▶ Per diem rate information
 - ▶ Library of previous technical assistance presentations
 - ▶ Conference call highlights

RESOURCE INFORMATION

- ▶ Conference calls
 - ▶ Grantees are expected to attend conference calls to receive program update information, guidance, and technical assistance
 - ▶ Monthly call for all GPD grantees 2nd Tuesday of the month at 2 pm Eastern Time **Beginning October 9th**
 - ▶ Dial in info 1-800-767-1750 Access Code, 17663#
 - ▶ Low demand grant awarded organization attend the low demand technical assistance information will be disseminated by email to grantees

RESOURCE INFORMATION

- ▶ Special GPD email addresses
 - ▶ Technical assistance questions about grant operations, regulatory interpretations, submissions of change of scope requests - gpdgrants@va.gov
 - ▶ Per diem rate questions- gpdfiscal@va.gov