VA Grant & Per Diem National Office

Webinar for Operational GPD Grantees
October 12, 2021

Recording Link:
https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/recordingplayback/c3596d980db4103aaebf0056b02a1f

Password: Homeless1!
VIEWING THROUGH WEBEX
• Announcements
• Office of Business Oversight
• Homeless Veterans Community Employment Services-Carma Heitzmann, PhD
• NCCHV, Training Opportunities, Resources - Holly Hirsel, LISW, BCD
• Capital Grant Q&A
• Next Month
Announcements
• Be sure to update your contact information in SmartSimple (grants management system)
• Urgent to ensure communication to your organization
MAXIMUM PER DIEM RATE INCREASE

- State Home per diem rate for domiciliary care **increased to $50.91**
  - Therefore, the maximum GPD per diem rate, per the waivers authorized under the CARES Act and P.L. 116-315, is
    - $152.73 for all transitional housing, Special Need & TIP grants
    - $19.09/hour for service centers

- Grantees incurring sufficient costs, may request a rate increase
  - **Monthly**, grantees must monitor actual incurred costs, as compared to their authorized per diem rate
  - **Do not** wait until the end of the fiscal year to reduce your rate
  - Rate increases/decreases may be requested at any time

GPD Per Diem Rate Request Webpage

Grant and Per Diem Program: Per Diem Rate

- Please Email Per Diem Rate Request worksheets to GDPFiscal@va.gov
- CARES Act Per Diem Rate Waiver Guidance (1/11/2021)
- Safety and Survival Assistance (2/5/2021)
- Sample for Screening and Documentation

**UPDATE:**
- Per P.L. 116-315, the per diem rate request forms below have been modified to allow for additional costs (up to $10,000) associated with HMIS
- State Home Domiciliary rate **increased to $50.91**; therefore, the maximum per diem rate authorized, per the waivers under the CARES Act and P.L. 116-315, is $152.73 for transitional housing and $19.09 for service centers

**Transitional Housing - Per Diem Only, Transition In Place, Special Need**
- NEW Per Diem Rate Request Instructions
- NEW Per Diem Rate Request Worksheet

**Transitional Housing with Minor Dependents - Per Diem Only and Transition In Place**
- NEW Per Diem Rate Request Instructions
- NEW Per Diem Rate Request Worksheet

**Service Centers**
- NEW Service Center Per Diem Rate Request Instructions
- NEW Service Center Per Diem Rate Request Worksheet

Questions may be e-mailed to the VA Grant and Per Diem Program.
REQUEST A PER DIEM RATE

• Grantees must request and be approved for a per diem rate prior to project activation

• Rate requests are submitted through SmartSimple

• How-to: Submit an Initial Per Diem Rate Request
  I. Complete the Per Diem Rate Request Worksheet
  II. Submit an Initial Per Diem Rate Request through SmartSimple

• Recently updated per diem rate request worksheets to allow for up to $10,000 in HMIS costs
• FY 2022 Case Management grants began on 10/1/21
  ▪ Use your new FAIN ending in CM-22

• The new FY22 FAIN will be entered in HHS in the next few weeks for you to begin drawing funds.

• Please be mindful when drawing funds that you are drawing from the correct grant:
  • Costs through 9/30/21, you will draw from your FY19 Case Management grant
  • Costs beginning 10/1/21, you will draw from your new FY22 Case Management grant

• Please email GPDFiscal@va.gov when you have completed all draws from your FY19 grant so that we can close that account in HHS
Case Management Tracking Tool 3.0

- Submit finalized September census GPD liaison by **October 8**
  - Please do that now if you didn’t last week
- GPD Liaisons will need to have the census uploaded by **October 13**
- GPD National Office will have all the CM Tool 3.0 distributed by **October 22**
Collaborative Case Management (CCM)

• **Monthly Office Hours**
  - Open discussion, no agenda
  - Fourth Wednesday of each month at 2pm Eastern
  - **Teams invitation was canceled**
    - Webex invitation replaces it, October 27\textsuperscript{th} onwards
    - [https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/j.php?MTID=ma77e1e0c3942766139443aea4cc4c48d](https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/j.php?MTID=ma77e1e0c3942766139443aea4cc4c48d)
    - Meeting number (access code): 2764 137 2397
Federal Financial Report (SF-425) completed on an annual basis federal fiscal year that ends September 30th.
- Must be completed within 120 days of the end of the reporting period or end of award
- Case Management/Special Need grant closeout reporting
- Per Diem Only annual report
- SF-425 Report
- GPD Fiscal Webpage
- Questions GPD425@va.gov
• September 30, 2021, ended the federal fiscal year
• Case Management/Special Need grants closeout reporting
• Per Diem Only year 1 annual report
• New Federal Contractors:
  ▪ Trilogy, RMA & Associates & BDO

• Upcoming Fiscal Reviews:
  ▪ LifeMoves – October 19-21, 2021
  ▪ Cocaine and Alcohol Awareness Program, Inc. – October 19-21, 2021
  ▪ Dignity's Alcove, Inc. – November 15-19, 2021
  ▪ Volunteers of America Los Angeles – November 15-19, 2021
  ▪ Casa Del Peregrino Aguadilla, Inc. – December 13-17, 2021
  ▪ The Transition House, Inc. – December 13-17, 2021

• SF-425’s

• GPD Cost Principles training Allowable and Unallowable Costs Training:
  ▪ Who? OBO hosting training with GPD Program Office.
  ▪ What? Allowable and Unallowable Costs Training:
  ▪ When? October 27, 2021, at:
    • 11am Pacific
    • 12pm Mountain
    • 1pm Central
    • 2pm Eastern
  ▪ Where? Virtual WebEx Training (Pending Meeting Invite)
  ▪ Why? To provide annual GPD training to Grantees who receive federal funds.
VHA HOMELESS PROGRAMS
HOMELESS VETERANS COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (HVCES)

Carma Heitzmann, Ph.D., National Director, HVCES
VHA Homeless Programs

October 2021
To provide employment services and resources to Veterans participating in VHA homeless programs in order to increase access to permanent housing and improve housing stability. This is accomplished both through the provision of direct services and by providing a bridge to employment opportunities and resources in the local community.
• All Veterans assessed for VHA Homeless Program services will be queried regarding interest in receiving employment services regardless of the Veteran’s disability status. Veterans identified as interested in receiving assistance with employment will have access to employment services that will support them in overcoming barriers in returning to work such as: a poor work history; lack of transportation and appropriate clothing; history of justice involvement; and co-occurring substance use and/or mental health issues. Based on individual need, employment assistance will be provided directly by HVCES staff or by referral to other medical center or community-based employment services.
HVCES STAFFING

- HVCES is staffed by Vocational Development Specialists who function as:
  
  o Community Employment Coordinators (CEC) funded at almost all VA medical centers (VAMCs).

  o Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) and Department of Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Employment Specialists that are funded at a limited number of VAMCs based on local needs.
    - 23 funded HCHV Employment Specialists
    - 68 funded HUD-VASH Employment Specialists
THE ROLE OF CEC

• To coordinate with VA and non-VA partners to develop strategies to augment existing employment services and reduce barriers, as needed.

• To build a direct communication bridge between staff and community programs and employers.

• To provide consultation and training regarding the importance of work and employment options for Veterans receiving homeless program services.
HCHV AND HUD-VASH EMPLOYMENT SPECIALISTS

- HCHV Employment Specialists are imbedded in HCHV teams and may be located in a variety of settings which provide services to homeless Veterans.

- HCHV Employment Specialists may be assigned to a primary location such as a Community Resource and Referral Center (CRRC) or Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC), or to a specific team.

- HUD-VASH Employment Specialists are imbedded within HUD-VASH teams and provide direct services to Veterans participating in HUD-VASH.
WHAT HVCES IS NOT

• HVCES is not a discrete program.

• There are no eligibility requirements for Veterans to receive assistance from HVCES other than participation in a VHA homeless program.

• HVCES is not exactly the same across sites:
  o Staff ensure a range of employment services are accessible to Veterans who have experienced homelessness based on site-specific needs and resources.
RESOURCES

• Locate HVCES staff
  https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/HVCES.asp

• Success Stories
QUESTIONS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Carma Heitzmann, Ph.D.
National Director, Homeless Veterans Community Employment Services (HVCES)
VHA Homeless Programs Office
VA Central Office
Carma.Heitzmann@va.gov
https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/cec-contacts.asp
1,252,226 calls to NCCHV
673,492 referrals to homeless program points of contact

FY21 thru August = 133,690 calls
- 13% increase over FY20 (119,021)
- 550-600 calls a day average

FY21 thru August = 65,205 referrals
- 17% increase over FY20 (55,548)

Updates:
- DoD pilot in 2022; 5 installations participating

Short term goal = improve access and warm handovers to VHA
Long term goal = homeless prevention
- Text messaging
NATIONAL CALL CENTER FOR HOMELESS VETERANS
1877-424-3838

- Referred to Vet Center: 323
- Referred to MH-Residential Rehab Treatment Program: 235
- Referred to a Veteran Suicide Coordinator: 40
- Referred for a Mental Health Evaluation: 156
- Veteran Immediate Evaluation: 750
- Veteran Hospitalized: 466
- Substance Abuse Referral: 197
- Rescue with Follow-up: 330
- Referred to Other Federal Agency: 1991
- Referred to Veterans Benefits: 2759
- Veteran Enrolled/Registered: 3331
- Referred to HUD/VA Supportive Housing: 6866
- Referred to Grant and Per Diem Program: 4287
- Referred to Community Based Homeless Provider: 9934
- Referred to Health Care for Homeless Veterans: 14606
- Referred to Other Community Agency: 16359
VHA Train
- Overview
- **NCHV: Health Care for Women Veterans: Challenges and Opportunities** October 20th 1pm EST
- **Caring for and Treating Veterans with PTSD** October 28th 1pm EST

**October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month**
- Find out more: [Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program (IPVAP) - VHA Social Work](#)

**Choose VA Campaign**
- Billboard campaign
- 26 city marketing area

**VBA Homeless Veteran Outreach**
- Overview
- POC listing (will share)
Questions?

Contact me: Holly Hirsel, LISW-S, LICDC-S, BCD
Holly.hirsel@va.gov
• Part II October 13, 2021 @ 2pm eastern
  – GPD-CFM Webinar Part II
• Part I recorded
  – GPD-CFM Webinar Part I
On September 3, 2021, GPD published a Capital grant NOFO on www.Grants.gov. Approximately $75 million is available:

- Renovation, acquisition or construction of GPD transitional housing
- To improve personal safety for Veterans,
- Reduce risks associated with close quarters living and
- Increase the availability of individual unit style transitional housing.

Eligible applicants are current GPD Per Diem Only (PDO) transitional housing recipients.

Technical Assistance webinar posted on GPD Website.

NEW! Capital Notice Of Funding Opportunity:
On September 3, 2021, GPD published a Capital grant NOFO on Grants.gov announcing the availability of approximately $75 million for the renovation, acquisition or construction of GPD transitional housing to improve personal safety for Veterans, reduce risks associated with close quarters living and increase the availability of individual unit style transitional housing. For purposes of this NOFO, eligible applicants are current GPD Per Diem Only (PDO) transitional housing grantees.

Notice Of Funding Opportunity
Capital Grant NOFO Overview Webinar
Capital NOFO FAQs
- Budget Template Sample
- VA Letter of Coordination Sample

Additional Resources, Forms & Information:
SmartSimple Website
GPD General Terms and Conditions of Award (updated March 2021)
Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) (OMB Assurances SF-424B SF42D (for reference only))

(question SF-424 requires Adobe Reader 8. For best results, do not open the form in your web browser. Save locally to your computer before opening. For further assistance, please visit https://helpx.adobe.com/acrobat/kb/cant-open-pdf.html)

Questions: GPDGrants@va.gov
NOVEMBER

- Operational Webinar November 9, 2021, 2pm eastern