GRANT & PER DIEM NATIONAL PROGRAM OPERATIONAL GRANTEE CALL

November 8, 2022

RECORDING LINK: https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/recording/service/sites/veteransaffairs/recording/playback/95c6924e41c5103b9bef00505681c1bb

RECORDING PASSWORD: Homeless1!
• This meeting is being recorded.

• Past recordings are available on the GPD provider website:
  https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp

• The webinar will last approximately 60 minutes.

• Mics and video are disabled (but always check to make sure you’re on mute).

• Questions can be submitted using the Chat function.

Select the Chat icon on the tool bar at the bottom of the screen.

Select if you would like to send your message to Everyone or to a specific individual. If you select a specific individual, this will send the message privately so no one else in the meeting will see it.
AGENDA

• Announcements
  – GPD Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs)
  – Annual Inspections
  – Public health emergency declaration
  – Per diem rate increase and new worksheets

• Office of Business Oversight (OBO) – Omar Ochoa

• Importance of required clinical quarterly reviews

• Questions
Happy Veterans Day!
- Many of you are Veterans personally
- All of you serve our Nation’s Veterans
- Thank you to all who’ve served and their families
- The value of your work does not go unnoticed
Press Release link

New data shows 11% decline in Veteran homelessness since 2020 — the biggest drop in more than 5 years

The data show on a single night in January 2022, there were 33,136 Veterans who were experiencing homelessness in the United States — down from 37,252 in 2020

— Overall, this represents a 55.3% reduction in Veterans experiencing homelessness since 2010

“One Veteran experiencing homelessness will always be one too many, but the 2022 PIT Count shows that we are making real progress in the fight to end Veteran homelessness,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “There is still a long way to go, but under President Biden’s leadership, we at VA, HUD and USICH will not stop until every Veteran has a good, safe, stable home in this country they fought to defend.”
ANNOUNCEMENTS
October 27, 2022, GPD published 2 grant opportunities:

- **Transition in Place (TIP)** – due 4:00 p.m. ET on January 30, 2023
- **Per Diem Only (PDO)** - due 4:00 p.m. ET on February 6, 2023

Initiate discussions with your local VA staff and community partners.

- Request coordination letters early
- Be prepared to share specifics of your proposal (e.g., number of beds, housing models, services, staffing ratios, location, facility configuration, past performance, improvements)
- A [coordination letter template](#) is posted on the [GPD website](#) along with other technical assistance materials

These NOFOs are not renewals

- Open to current and new organizations
- Applicants may change/update numbers of beds, housing models, services, staffing, etc.
- Be prepared to speak to past performance, including challenges and improvements
GPD TRANSITIONAL HOUSING ANNUAL INSPECTIONS

- Annual reinspections of all GPD transitional housing must be completed by December 31st
  - The December 31st deadline means all deficiencies are resolved

- Plan with your VA medical center liaison team now
  - Please review August’s GPD operational call for strategies on coordinating successful inspections
  – HHS Secretary has committed to providing a 60-day notice before any termination.
  – The declaration is extended in 90-day increments.

• GPD will continue to offer the per diem rate waiver (3x State Home domiciliary rate) until the declaration ends or it is rescinded by the VA Secretary.
  – Waiver has been in effect since March 2020.
COVID-19 Announcements & Guidance

• HUD recently released a resource on the HUD Exchange, Infectious Disease Winter Planning and Preparedness for Congregate Facilities for homeless service providers in preparation for colder weather.

• CDC published multiple articles in the Journal of Infectious Diseases with a focus on homelessness and emerging infections.

• Reminder: Please continue to highlight the importance of influenza vaccinations

Monkeypox Announcements & Guidance

• On November 2, 2022, HHS renewed the monkeypox public health emergency.

• On October 26, 2022, CDC published a Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report on Severe Monkeypox in Hospitalized Patients – United States, August 10 – October 10, 2022. This report summarizes how CDC provided clinical consultation for 57 hospitalized patients with severe manifestations of monkeypox.
The State Home domiciliary rate increased to $54.89
- 115% State Home rate $63.12 (PDO)
- 150% State Home rate $82.34 (TIP)
- 200% State Home rate $109.78 (SN)
- 300% State Home rate $164.67 (all housing models during PHE) & $20.58/hr service centers

Updated per diem rate request worksheets and instructions are available on the [GPD Provider website](#).

Organizations may submit a request to modify their per diem rate at any time through GPD’s [electronic grants management system (eGMS)](#).

After reviewing the updated form and instructions, questions may be directed to [GPDFiscal@va.gov](mailto:GPDFiscal@va.gov).
GPD PER DIEM RATE INCREASE

- Updated Per Diem Rate Request Worksheet: Transitional Housing and Service Centers
  - Itemized detail for Direct and Indirect costs
    - Personnel Real Property Facility Space
    - Fringe Benefits Utilities
    - Travel for Personnel Food
    - Transportation Accounting/Audit Fees
    - Equipment HMIS
    - Supplies Other
    - Contractual

- Federal Share reported on the most recent SF-425
- Executive Director compensation and amount attributable to the grant
- Updated instructions with definitions for each of these categories
All grantees are required to submit a **Federal Financial Report (SF-425)** documenting actual costs incurred during fiscal year (FY) 2022.
- Reporting period is from October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022.
- A separate report must be submitted for each FAIN.
- Submission of these reports is a condition of these awards and a requirement to receive Federal funding.

SF-425’s will be reviewed by VA’s Office of Business Oversight (OBO).
- Submit the SF-425 via the [Electronic SF-425 Submission Portal](#) and email the completed form with supporting documentation (general ledger) to GPD425@va.gov.

SF-425 submissions **due no later than Monday, January 30, 2023**.
- Early submissions are encouraged.
- GPD will issue a withholding of payments for any grant projects that have not submitted a properly completed SF-425 and general ledger by the due date.
OFFICE OF BUSINESS OVERSIGHT
• Federal Contractors:
  – Trilogy, BDO, RMA & Associates

• Upcoming Fiscal Reviews:
  – Everywhere and Now Public Housing Residents Organizing Nationally Together, Inc. – November 15-17, 2022
  – Porchlight, Inc. – November 15-17, 2022
  – United Veterans Beacon House, Inc. – November 15-17, 2022
  – Volunteers of America of Illinois – November 28 - December 2, 2022
  – Featherfist – November 28 - December 2, 2022
  – Pinellas Ex-Offender Re-Entry Coalition, Inc. – November 28 - December 2, 2022
  – Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard, Inc. – November 28 - December 2, 2022
  – St. Patrick Center – November 28 - December 2, 2022
  – The Eagles Nest of St Clair County – November 28 - December 2, 2022
  – Partners in Careers – December 13-15, 2022

• OBO Hot Topics:
  – SF-425s due 120 days after 9/30/2022
  – Grantee FY23 Best Practices in accordance with 2 CFR 200
    o Internal Controls
    o Document retention
    o Must seek approval for expenses greater than $5k
    o Budget monitoring
  – High Risk Grantees

• OBO Annual Training:
  – Mid-December
QUARTERLY REVIEWS AND ASSESSMENTS
QUESTIONs FOR OUR GRANTEES

• Pop quiz warm-up

  • Who from your organization attends these meetings monthly?
    o Executive leaders
    o Program managers
    o Direct service staff (e.g., case managers)
    o Everyone
    o Other

  • How do you share key points from these meetings with the rest of your team?
    • Team meeting
    • Email
    • Huddle
    • We don’t usually share
• Thank you for your responses!

Big picture
• Information sharing is important and critical to grant success
• Please make sure someone from your organization attends these monthly calls and shares information with your team
  – Also referenced in the Transitional Housing Grant Recipient Guide
• We also share the information from these meetings with your GPD liaisons
  – Conversation starters?
• Quarterly assessments are a great opportunity to dial in conversations with your liaison
Reminder: VA GPD regulations spell out many operational requirements and are a resource that are always available and should be reviewed regularly


Please make sure you are familiar with the regulations and updates

- Tip: click “view full text” to see all the regulations on one page

Let’s dive into the section of the regs that outline quarterly reporting requirements

- GPD grantees must meet quarterly reporting deadlines and collaborate with their GPD liaison for accuracy and completeness
• **38 CFR 61.80(c)** VA will provide performance goals to recipients in its initial federal award and update annually thereafter.

• **38 CFR 61.80(c)(3)(i)**
  - The VA GPD Liaison **will review the quarterly assessment** with the recipient no later than (30) days after the end of each of the following quarters:
    - (A) Quarter 1 (October-December) assessment completed **not later than January 30**;
    - (B) Quarter 2 (January-March) assessment completed **not later than April 30**;
    - (C) Quarter 3 (April-June) assessment completed **not later than July 30**; and,
    - (D) Quarter 4 (July-September) assessment completed **not later than October 30**.

• **38 CFR 61.80(c)(3)(ii)** A valid assessment must include the following:
  - (A) A comparison of actual accomplishments to established GPD performance goals for the reporting period addressing quantifiable as well as non-quantifiable goals. Examples include, but are not limited to, a description of grant agreement-related activities, such as: **Hiring and training personnel, community orientation/awareness activities, programmatic activities, or job development**; and
  - (B) **Identification of administrative and programmatic problems, which may affect performance and proposed solutions.**
WHY LIAISONS DO QUARTERLY ASSESSMENTS

• **To the letter of the regs: 38 CFR 61.80(c)(3)(iii)** Recipients and VA GPD Liaisons must include a summary of the quarterly assessment in their administrative records. These quarterly assessments will be used to provide a cumulative assessment for the entire calendar year.

• **Other positives and opportunities**
  * Mitigate any surprises before the annual clinical inspection
  * Opportunity to share ideas and review successes and challenges together in person
  * Opportunity to review program performance metrics and grant compliance
  * Opportunity to brainstorm performance improvement strategies
  * Formal meeting vs. a casual team meeting or email or phone calls = action plan development
QUARTERLY ASSESSMENTS

In summary
• Quarterly assessments are required
• Please work with your liaison
  – GPD National does not have a mandatory template for their completion
  – Together, you can dial in a template that works for you
  – Liaisons can help with suggestions
  – Opportunity to identify barriers or issues early
  – Build rapport and relationships with your VA medical center team
• Idea: plan meetings ahead
  – Schedule all your quarterly reviews for the year at one time
  – Be proactive with your liaisons
QUESTIONS
Thank You

Next Call: Tuesday, December 13\textsuperscript{th} @ 2pm EDT