

VHA Homeless Programs Office

Working Together to Help Veterans Exit Homelessness

FULFILL YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION TO HELP OTHERS: VOLUNTEER FOR THE ANNUAL HUD POINT-IN-TIME COUNT



Over the past decade, VA has forged a vast nationwide network of partnerships and programs in the fight to end Veteran homelessness. Our comprehensive and sustained approach is yielding positive results. Last year alone, [the number of homeless Veterans dropped 2.1%](#). To date, [three states and 78 communities](#) have declared an effective end to Veteran homelessness. Together with our partners from the public, private, and non-profit sectors, VA has connected tens of thousands of homeless Veterans with temporary and permanent housing, clinical care, and a wide range of supportive services.

These successes would not have been possible without accurate data because VA depends on reliable information from many different sources, including the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), to coordinate its evidence-based response to Veteran homelessness.

Did you know that HUD's annual homeless census is done by volunteers?

During the last ten days of January each year, HUD tasks regional Continuums of Care (CoCs) with conducting one-night Point-in-Time (PIT) counts of individuals experiencing homelessness. In nearly every community in America, volunteers search public parks, train stations, encampments, and other places not meant for human habitation for homeless people. In addition to counting and surveying people who lack stable housing, volunteers help direct them to local resources.

You can help. To participate in the 2020 PIT count in your community, [contact your local CoC](#) to learn about volunteer opportunities.



South Florida-based Veteran exits homelessness and obtains degree through the assistance of VA partnership

Eddie Miller served his country for twenty years before retiring, ready to settle down and spend more time with his family. An unexpected tragedy sent his world into a tailspin, leaving him alone, homeless and hopeless. However, VA's Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program was there to help. Read more about Eddie's story [here](#).

Homeless Program Updates

Grant and Per Diem Program Notice of Funding Availability

On December 30, 2019, VA's Grant and Per Diem (GPD) Program published a Per Diem Only (PDO) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) in the [Federal Register](#). This NOFA offers funding opportunities for eligible organizations to provide transitional housing beds and/or services for Veterans who are homeless or at risk for becoming homeless. Applicants interested in applying for these competitive grants are urged to closely review the NOFA and associated technical assistance materials provided on [the GPD website](#). Technical assistance products include two pre-recorded webinars that inform prospective applicants how to apply. The pre-recorded webinars also include information about the GPD transitional housing models and service centers.

Awards are for services to begin October 1, 2020. Current awards for all PDO grantees expire on September 30, 2020. Applicants wishing to be considered for renewal funding must apply under the FY 2020 NOFA. The application deadline is **March 2, 2020 by 4 p.m. eastern**.

HUD and VA Announce Support to Help Homeless Veterans Find Permanent Homes

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently announced the award of an additional \$29.3 million to 216 public housing agencies under the HUD-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Program. The vouchers awarded to Veterans enrolled in the program subsidize the cost of market rate housing, making it affordable for low-income Veterans. The new funding will help approximately 3,200 Veterans and their families exit homelessness. The comprehensive case management provided by VA to Veterans enrolled in the program will help them remain in stable housing by working with them on the issues that caused them to become homeless. [Read more here](#).

Communicate with Us

We value your feedback about the work underway to prevent and end Veteran homelessness. Please share your thoughts by clicking the "Contact Us" button on the [VA Homeless Programs website](#).