

The Homeless Programs Office newsletter contains news and information about Veteran homelessness. Share this newsletter with others so they too can stay up-to-date.



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Veterans who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness are strongly encouraged to contact the [National Call Center for Homeless Veterans](#) at (877) 4AID-VET (877-424-3838) for assistance. To minimize the risk of contracting or spreading COVID-19, only Veterans who do not have access to a phone are to visit their closest VA medical center without calling in advance.



**Message from Monica Diaz,
Executive Director,
VHA Homeless Programs Office**

This month, VHA's [Homeless Programs Office \(HPO\)](#) recognizes the many emotions that may be weighing on the minds and hearts of Veterans and their loved ones. From the 20th anniversary of the attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, to the recent events in Afghanistan, to the recent Supreme Court ruling that struck down new temporary bans on evictions, to Hurricane Ida—the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is committed to supporting Veterans and their families through it all.

[Read Monica's full message.](#)

Around HPO

[Afghanistan: How Veterans can reconcile service](#)

This is the first in a four-part series about Afghanistan Veterans and how they can receive help through VA. This part follows the story of [Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman Ramón "CZ" Colón-López](#), his deployment, his experience with PTSD, and seeking help through VA.



[Afghanistan: Resources available for PTSD](#)

This is the last in a four-part series about Afghanistan Veterans and how they can receive help through VA. This part highlights the various resources available for Veterans who are experiencing PTSD, following their service.

[The Delta Variant: 5 Ways Communities Can Protect People Experiencing Homelessness](#)

This [new guidance](#) is intended to help communities minimize the spread and impact of the rapidly-spreading Delta variant of COVID-19 among people experiencing homelessness. It offers the 5 important recommendations that should be implemented immediately.



[VA grants improve transitional housing, prevent Veteran homelessness](#)

The Department of Veterans Affairs will begin awarding \$116.4 million in grants on September 30th to more than 200 community organizations under VA's [Grant and Per Diem program](#), which provides funding to community organizations that provide transitional housing and supportive services for Veterans at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

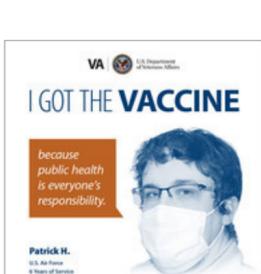
[VA expands rental support, increasing housing options for Veterans](#)

The Department of Veterans Affairs has expanded the Shallow Subsidy initiative and will grant \$200 million to 238 nonprofit organizations across the country and territories to provide housing rental assistance to extremely and very low-income Veteran households eligible under VA's [Supportive Services for Veteran Families program](#).



HPO Resource Quick Links

- The [U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness \(USICH\)](#) created a Guide to American Rescue Plan Funding that impacts people experiencing homelessness. [Read more.](#)
- The [Rental Assistance Finder](#) was designed by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to help renters and landlords find their local program and apply for assistance.
- [USICH](#) has a step-by-step guide for people at risk of eviction. [Read more.](#)
- [VA's Partial Claim Payment program \(VAPCP\)](#) can temporarily defer repayment of mortgage principal to help eligible Veterans remain in their homes.
- Veterans who have fallen behind or are at risk of falling behind on their mortgage payments should contact [VA's Home Loan Center](#) at (877) 827-3702 for help.
- NCHV: Me in the room: How Personal History and our Understanding of Societal Systems Impact our Work, Wednesday, September 15: 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. EST. [Register here.](#)
- On Tuesday, September 21, 3:30 p.m. EST, VA will be hosting the Facebook Live event, Resources for Veterans in Crisis: Suicide and Homelessness Prevention. [Watch live here.](#)
- [The National Alliance to End Homelessness](#) is pleased to announce the [2021 National Virtual Conference on Ending Homelessness](#) will take place September 21-24. [Register Here.](#)



HPO COVID-19 Response and Updates

If you or a Veteran you know is struggling to maintain their housing or related housing costs due to the COVID-19 pandemic, VA can help. There are many resources offered by VA and other government entities that can help Veterans and their families remain housed. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Everyone always has the right to ask questions about any vaccine or treatment. The best person to discuss concerns with is a health care provider.

**HPO Staff Spotlight:
Dr. Michal Wilson**

Dr. Michal Wilson is the Medical Advisor for the VHA Homeless Programs, with over 25 years of experience working in VA and the community. Prior to his work at HPO, he was the Chief Mental Health Officers for the Northwest Network, where he oversaw mental health and homeless operations around the country. Not only is Dr. Wilson involved in collaborative efforts to develop new models of care for Veterans, but he has also created a 9-part podcast series to help educate and share resources to medical staff and community members alike to enhance the care of Veterans facing the Opioid Crisis in the midst of experiencing homelessness and COVID. Below, Dr. Wilson shares his background, motivations for his work, and more. [Read the full interview.](#)



HPO Fact of the Month

Did you know?

This September 11th marked the 20th anniversary of the devastating attacks on the United States, the beginning of a wartime era from which Americans, especially Veterans, continue to feel the impact. Back then, and now, the Department of Veterans Affairs remains committed to providing those who served with high quality health care services, specifically in areas of mental health and post-traumatic stress care. According to Dr. Sonya Norman, director of the [National Center for PTSD](#) Consultation Program, Veterans are encouraged to lookout for red flags or changing behaviors in response to the recent events in Afghanistan. This includes isolating, using alcohol, drugs, or any increase in unhealthy behaviors compared to normal. If you or someone you know is in need of help, please use our [PTSD program locator](#) and explore resources on [VA's National Center for PTSD webpage](#).