



## VA NATIONAL CENTER ON HOMELESSNESS AMONG VETERANS

*Promoting data-driven, evidence-based solutions to end Veteran homelessness*

**Mission:** The National Center on Homelessness among Veterans promotes recovery-oriented care for Veterans who are homeless or at risk for homelessness. The Center conducts and supports research; assesses the effectiveness of programs; identifies and disseminates best practices and integrates these practices into policies, programs, and services for homeless or at-risk Veterans; and serves as a resource center for all research and training activities carried out by the Department and by other Federal and non-Federal entities with respect to Veteran homelessness.

**Legislative Authority:** The Center is established by section 713 of the Jeff Miller and Richard Blumenthal Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2016, Public Law 114-315.

The Center operates within an integrated organizational model, comprised of the following cores:

- **Model Development & Implementation Core:** Develops and tests evidence-based and innovative models and program designs that provide services for homeless Veterans or those at risk for homelessness. The Core also provides technical assistance on new and existing models and supportive services to guide the development and operation of those programs as they transition to operational status.
- **Policy/Program Integration Core:** Integrates evidence-based and best practices, policies, and services into programs of the Department for homeless or at risk Veterans through policy recommendations and ensures that the staff of the Department and community partners can implement such practices, policies, and programs.
- **Education & Dissemination Core:** Provides education and training for VA and community partners and disseminates evidence-based and emerging best practices. The core also takes the lead for development of the overall Homeless Program Office (HPO) Education Plan to ensure that competency-based trainings are available for homeless providers.
- **Research & Methodology Core:** Conducts and supports research and evaluation to develop policy recommendations or enhance the development, implementation, or assessment of programs and services. The core works closely with internal and external partners and university affiliates to initiate studies regarding population-based research as well as studies in the areas of predictive analysis and system efficiencies.

A large part of the success of the Center can be attributed to the many partnerships it holds both within VA and external collaborators including academic affiliates, VA Health Service Research & Development, VHA Support Service Center (VSSC), the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the US Interagency Council on Homelessness, the National Alliance to End Homelessness and the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans.

For more information on the Center visit <https://www.va.gov/homeless/nchav/index.asp>, follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/VACtrHomeless> and VA Pulse <https://www.vapulse.net/groups/education-and-training-within-vhas-homeless-program-office>.