

Wilmington VA Medical Center 1601 Kirkwood Highway Wilmington, DE 19805 www.wilmington.va.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VA to Award Four Grants to Local Organizations to Help Prevent and End Veteran Homelessness in Delaware and southern New Jersey

WILMINGTON, Del. — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today it will award 425 grants to community organizations across the country totaling approximately \$279 million under the <u>Grant Per Diem (GPD) program</u>.

The GPD Program provides funding to community organizations that provide transitional housing and supportive services for homeless Veterans, with the goal of helping homeless Veterans achieve residential stability, increase their skill levels and income and obtain greater self-determination.

"The GPD program is one component of VA's coordinated partnerships of services and resources to help Veterans exit homelessness," said Vince Kane, Director, Wilmington VA Medical Center. "No Veteran should ever have to worry whether they will have stable housing, and these grants put us one step closer to ensuring all Veterans are living in a safe and supportive environment with access to health care and other supportive services."

In Delaware and southern New Jersey, four local organizations will be receiving grants.

Delaware

- Home of the Brave Milford
- Warriors Helping Warriors Inc. Middletown
- Young Men's Christian Association of Delaware Wilmington

Southern New Jersey

Everywhere and Now Public Housing Residents Organizing Nationally Together Inc. – Atlantic City

The award period begins Oct. 1 to support three different types of grants to address the unique needs of Veterans who are homeless:

- **Per Diem only grants** are used to provide transitional housing beds and operate service centers for Veterans experiencing homelessness. These grants provide funding in the form of per diem payments to reimburse grantees for the cost of care provided to Veterans during the award period.
- **Special Need grants** provide funding to organizations that incur additional operational costs to help Veterans with special needs who are experiencing homelessness, including women, individuals with chronic mental illnesses and Veterans who care for minor dependents.
- Transition in Place grants provide funding to community agencies that place Veterans experiencing
 homelessness in transitional housing while providing them with supportive services. These services
 are designed to help Veterans become more stable and independent, with the ultimate goal of
 Veterans assuming full responsibility for the lease or other housing agreement. When that goal has
 been achieved, the transitional residence becomes the Veteran's permanent residence and
 supportive services come to an end.

The GPD program has provided Veterans who are homeless with community-based transitional housing and supportive services since 1994. The number of Veterans experiencing homelessness in the U.S. has declined by 50% since 2010 — resulting from the GPD program and other VA efforts.



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Information about the GPD program and a list of grantees is available at www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp and a full list of grantees is available at www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/GPD/GPD-Final-PDO-Award-List-08112020.pdf, www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/GPD/GPD-Final-TIP-Award-List-08112020.pdf.

Wilmington VA Medical Center provides health care services to approximately 33,000 Veterans through its main medical center and five Community Based Outpatient Clinics in Delaware and southern New Jersey. For more information, visit <u>wilmington.va.gov</u>.

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