

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Aug. 30, 2018

VA announces \$200M in funding for Grant and Per Diem Program to support homeless Veterans programs nationwide

WASHINGTON — Today the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced it plans to provide approximately \$200 million in fiscal year 2019 funding to support more than 13,000 transitional housing beds for its <u>Grant and Per Diem (GPD) Program.</u>

The list of community partners who will work with VA to provide transitional housing for homeless Veterans can be found on the VA's homeless Veterans website.

VA intends to award about \$2.7 million to renew 12 Special Need grants for support services for homeless Veterans who have chronic mental illnesses, women Veterans and Veterans who must care for dependents under age 18.

"The Grant and Per Diem program gives our homeless Veterans an important source of support," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "We appreciate the U.S. Congress providing this funding because every homeless Veteran deserves the opportunity to move from living on the streets to a safe and supportive environment."

To receive the grants, which were published in the <u>federal register</u> and other public sources, each bidder submitted an application and underwent a performance review. Through this process, each applicant determined the resources it would need and the housing model for which it qualified to help Veterans transition out of homelessness.

Some housing models include:

- Bridge Housing short-term stay in transitional housing for homeless Veterans with pre-identified permanent housing destinations, when that housing is not immediately available.
- Low Demand to accommodate homeless Veterans experiencing chronic homelessness, who were unsuccessful in traditional housing/residential programs.
- Hospital to Housing addresses the housing and recuperative-care needs of homeless Veterans who have been hospitalized and/or evaluated in an emergency room.
- Clinical Treatment provides residential substance use and/or mental health treatment in conjunction with services to help homeless Veterans secure permanent housing and increase income through benefits and/or employment.
- Service-intensive Transitional Housing residential services that facilitate stabilization and transition to permanent housing.
- Transition in Place provides support services in the Veteran's living unit, phasing out over time, as the Veteran adjusts to permanent housing.

Established in 1994, GPD provides needed support and services to a number of programs across the country that care for homeless Veterans to help them achieve residential stability. To learn more about VA's programs for homeless Veterans, visit http://www.benefits.va.gov/PERSONA/veteran-homeless.asp.